INAZUMAN

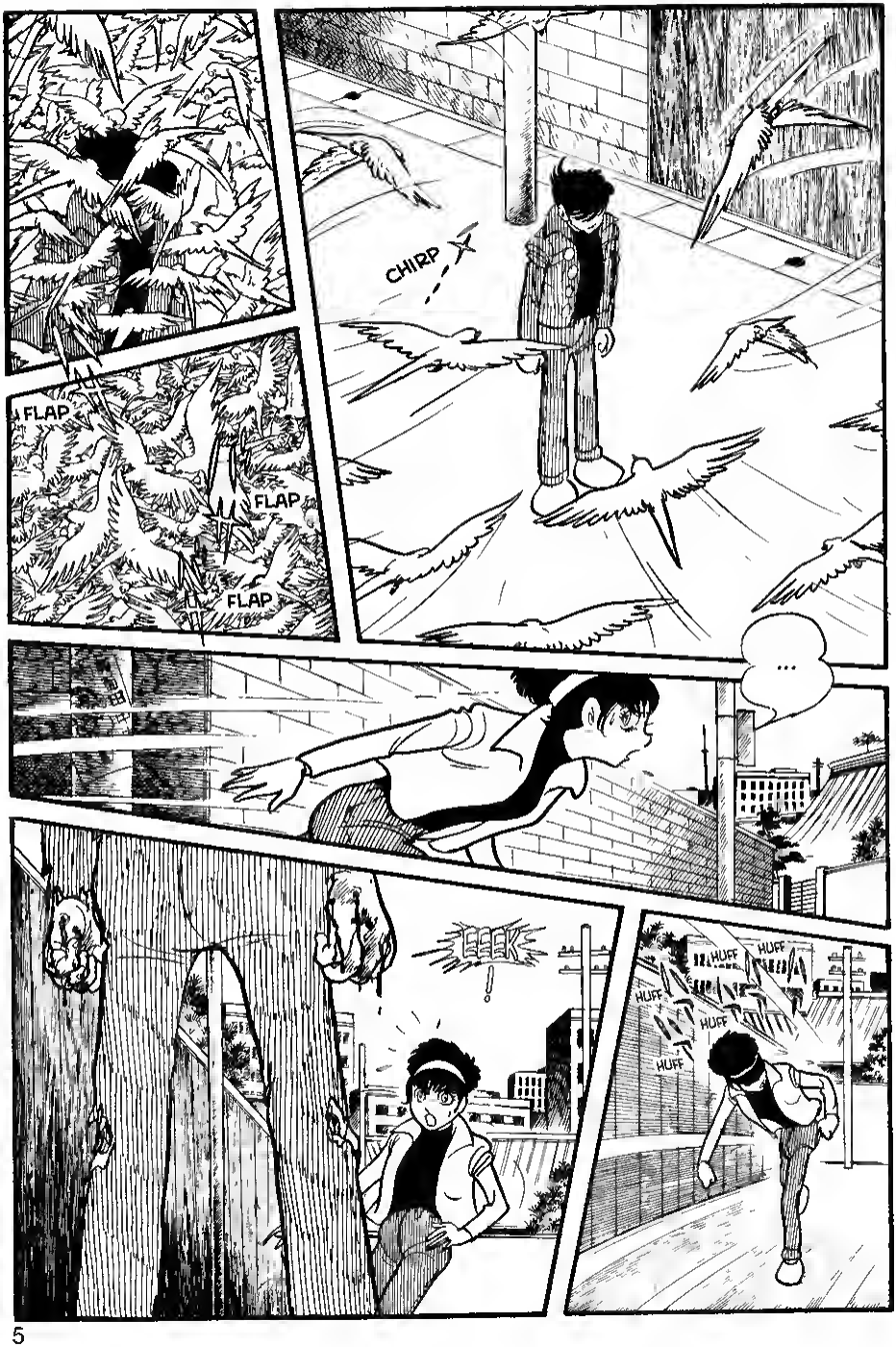
イナズマン

4

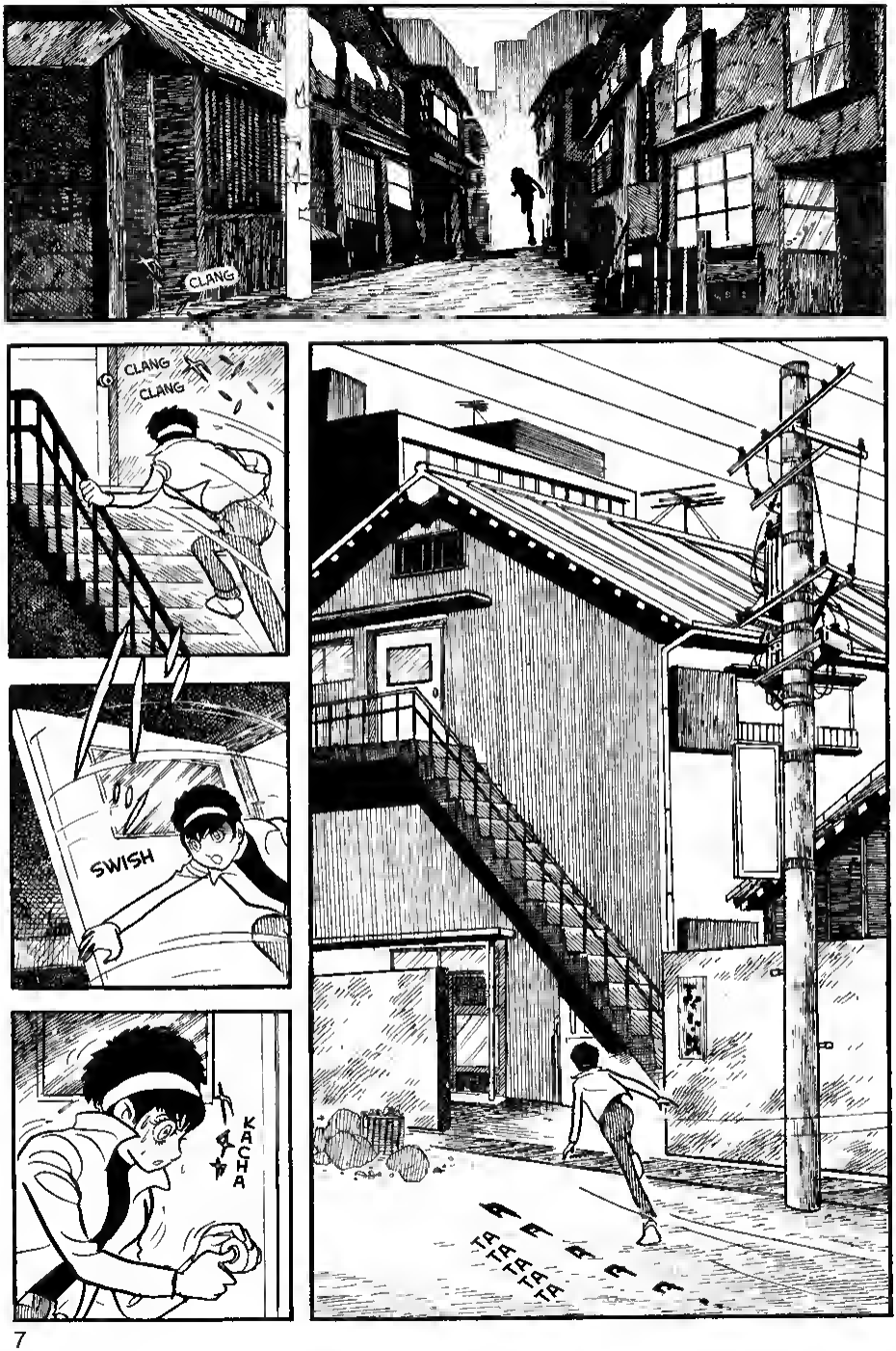
Shotaro Ishinomori

第15章
超人戦記
CHAPTER 15: PSIONIC WAR JOURNAL
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU!

...
YOU...?!
AH... Y...
WAAA!
W- WHAT'S HAPPEN- ING?!
W- WHERE'S THE KEY TO THE CAGES?!
SIGN BIRD SHOP

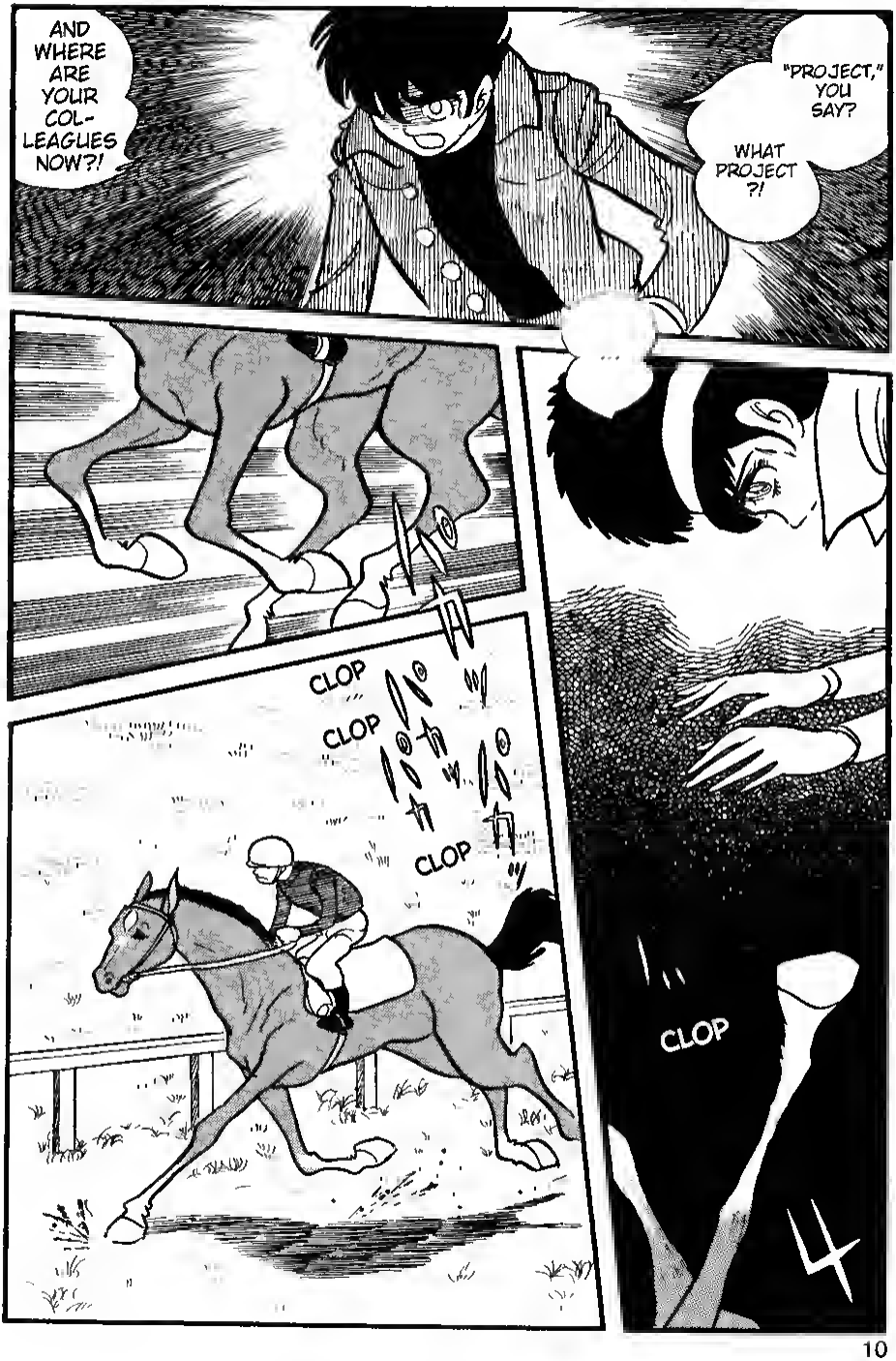

FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
CHIRP
...
EEEK!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

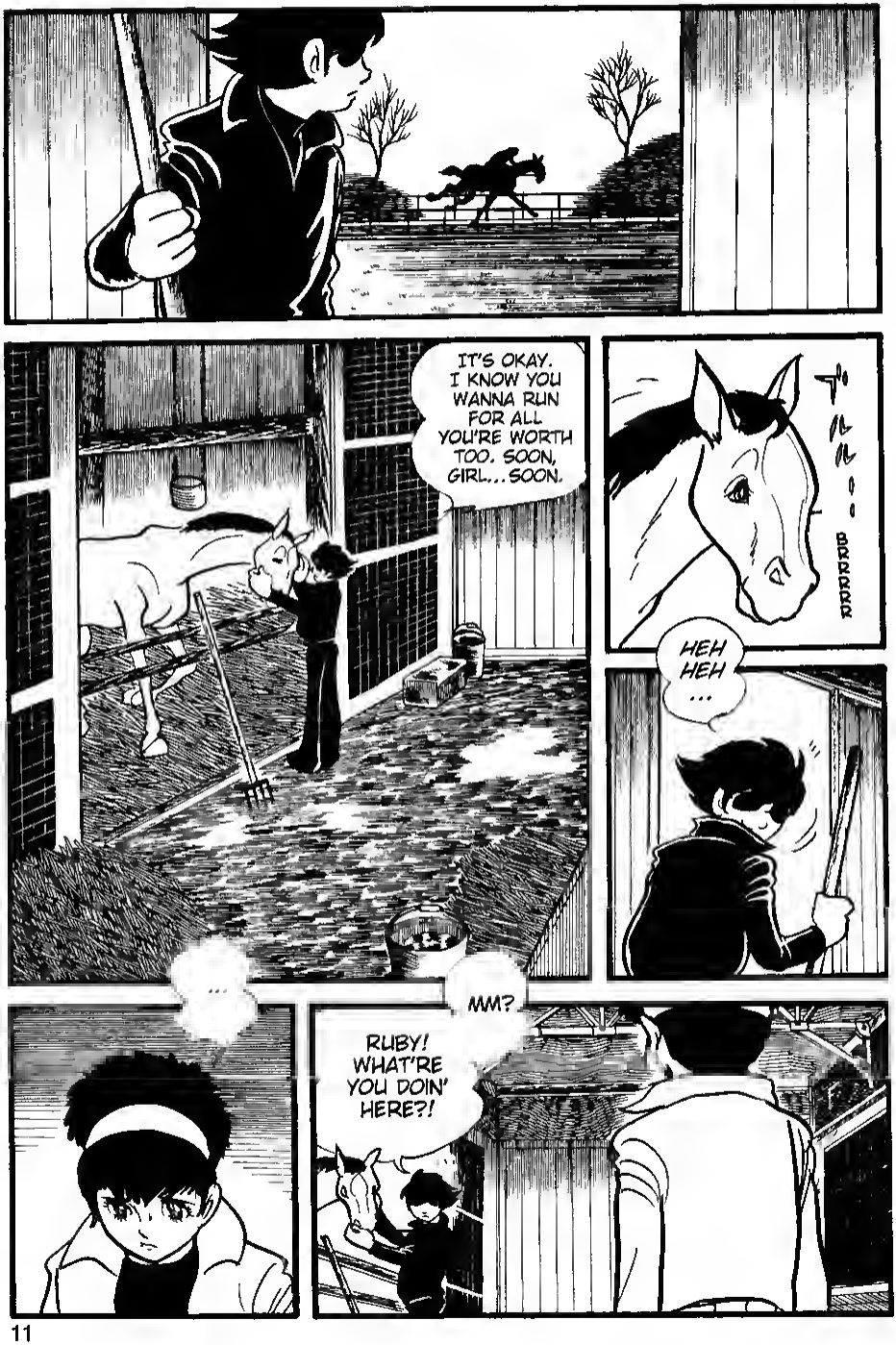
AH!
SWISH
SWISH
HSSSS

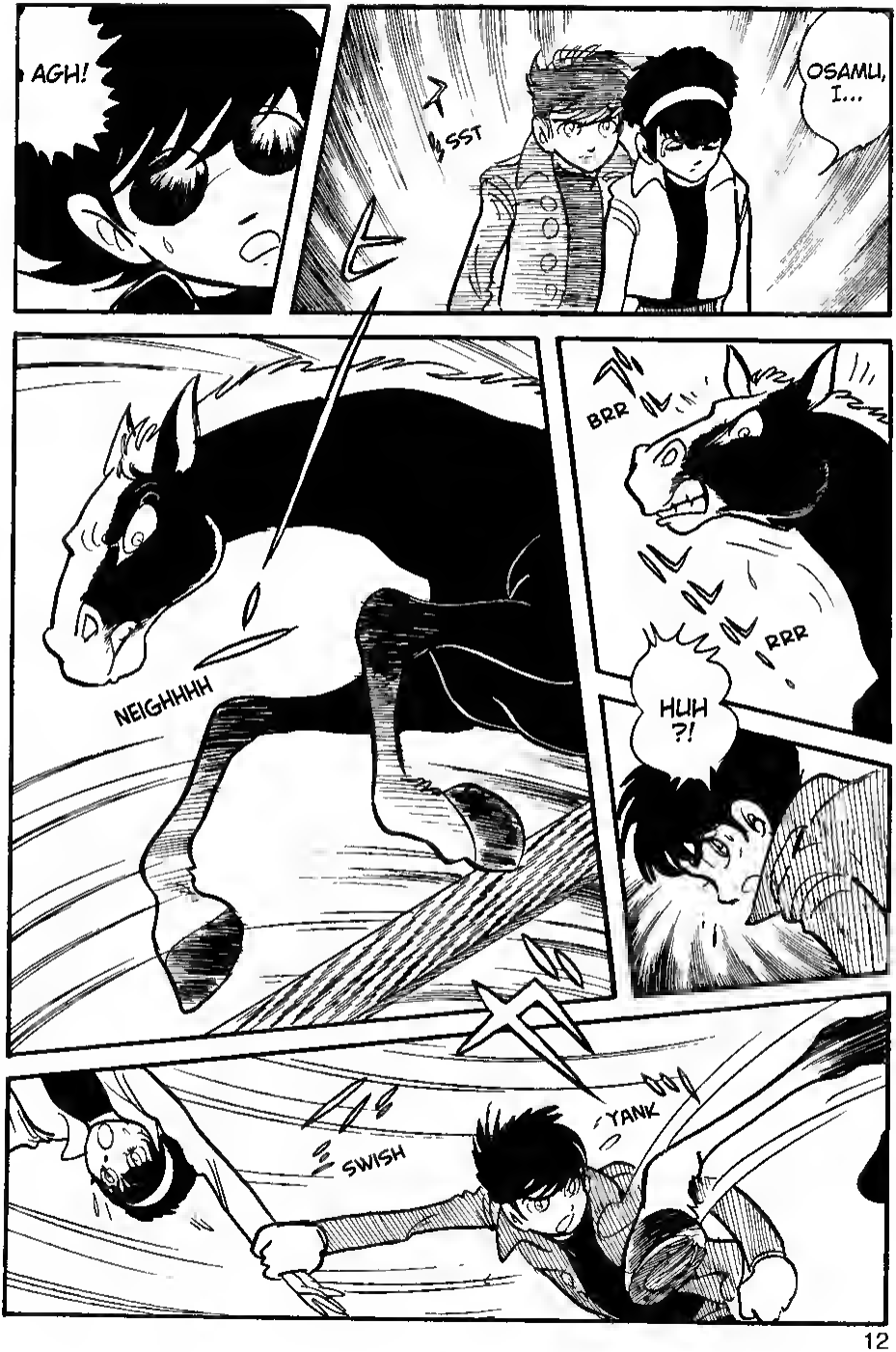

CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
SWISH
KACHA
TA TA TA TA TA

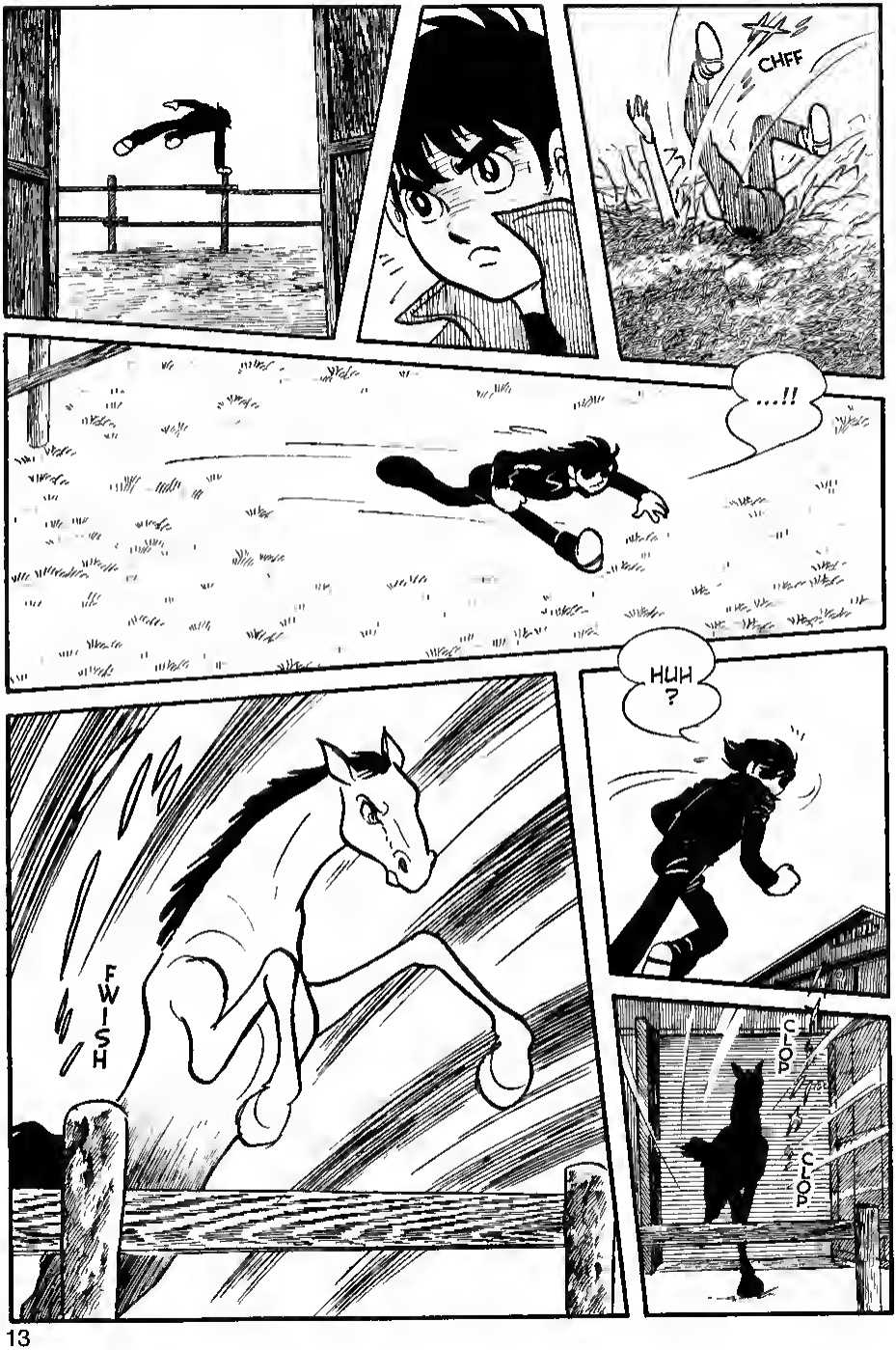
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
...
GRRRRR
CRASH

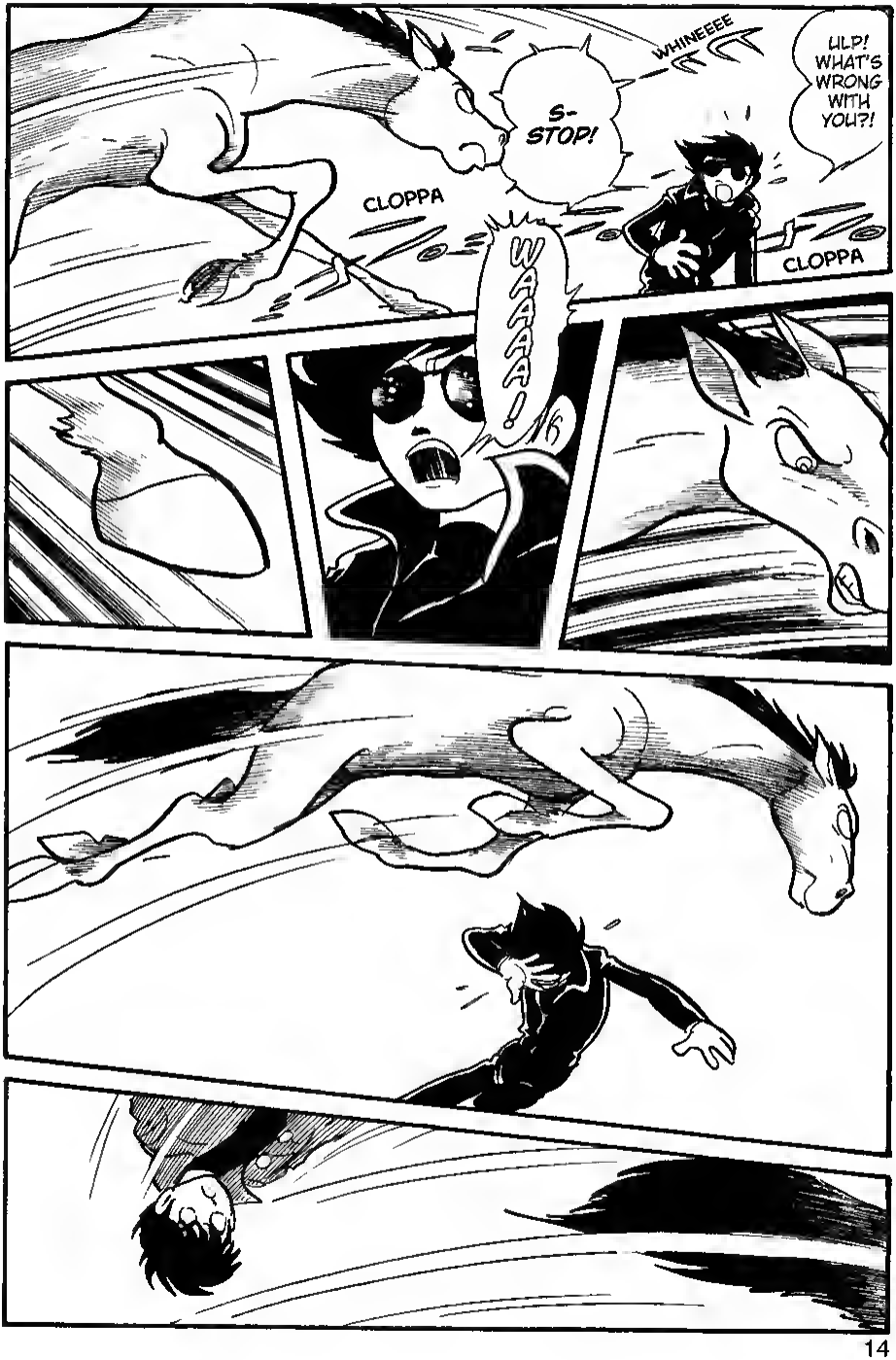
GRAB
WAAA!
WHY ?!
MY MOM AND DAD ARE DEAD!
DID YOU KILL THEM?
THEN WHO DID IT?!
I-IT WASN'T ME! I...
I WAS AGAINST IT!
M-MY COL-LEAGUES!
TH-THEY WANTED TO RUB YOU OUT BECAUSE YOU'D INTERFERE WITH THE PROJECT...
I HAD NO IDEA THAT WOULD HAPPEN!
F-FORGIVE ME... PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
SOB


AND WHERE ARE YOUR COL-LEAGUES NOW?!
"PROJECT," YOU SAY?
WHAT PROJECT ?!
CLOP
CLOP
CLOP
CLOP
4


IT'S OKAY. I KNOW YOU WANNA RUN FOR ALL YOU'RE WORTH TOO. SOON, GIRL... SOON.
ブルルル…
HEH HEH ...
...
MM?
RUBY! WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' HERE?!

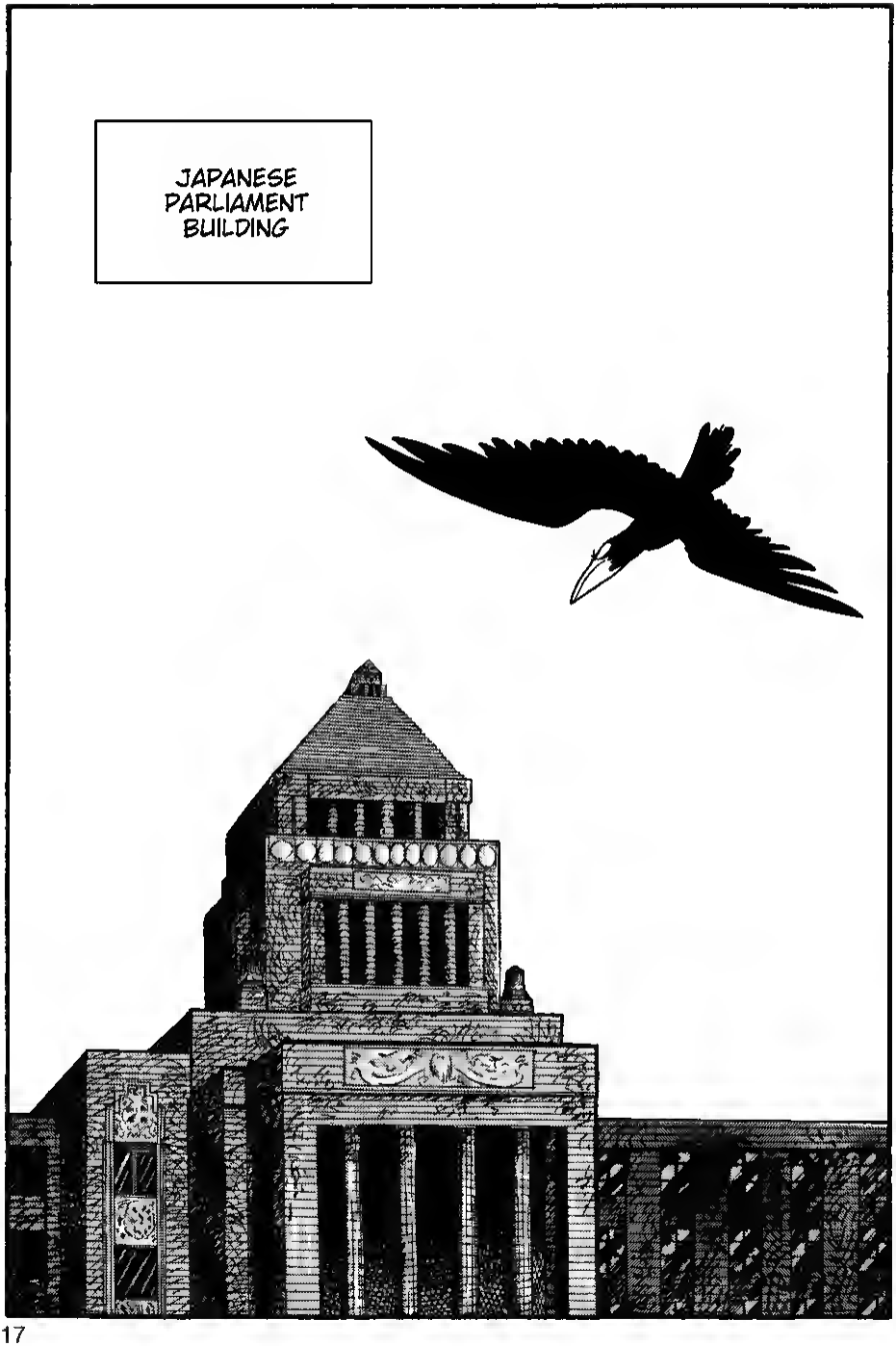

AGH!
SST
OSAMU, I...
NEIGHHHH
BRR
RRR
HUH ?!
SWISH
YANK


CHFF
...!!
HUH ?
FWISH
CLOP
CLOP


WHINEEEE
S-STOP!
EEP! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?!
CLOPPA
CLOPPA
WAAAA!

AH!
KRAK
WHAM
...
GRAB

TWEET
GASP
THE GATHERING PLACE FOR D.J.P. PHASE TWO IS...
TWEET
D.J.P. PHASE TWO!

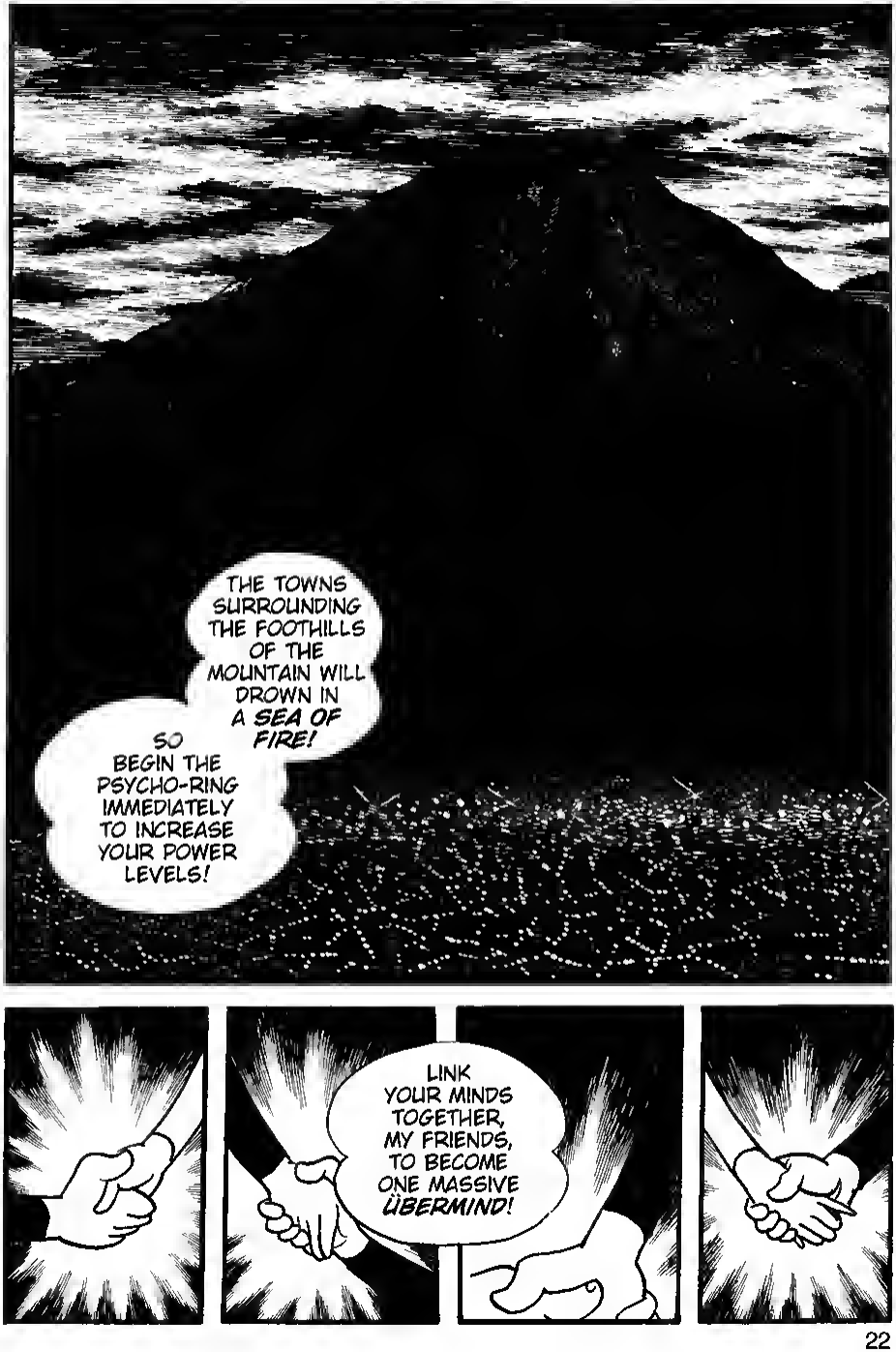

JAPANESE
PARLIAMENT
BUILDING

FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FWISH
WHAT WAS THAT?!
WAAA!
DON'T PANIC!
JUST TAKE ME TO THE PRIME MINISTER!!
A CROW ?!
SPLAT
AND THAT NIGHT, A GREAT NUMBER OF DOGS FROM THE SUBURBS NEAR FUJI RAN AWAY FROM HOME.
...THAT ALL THE DYNAMITE INTENDED FOR THE MT. FUJI FOOTHILL RESTORATION PROJECT HAS DISAPPEARED FROM THE SITE.
OUR FIRST REPORT'S IN, AND SO FAR, WHAT WE KNOW IS...

TH-THERE'S SOMEONE HERE TO SEE YOU...
PRIME MINISTER!
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
WE'RE NOT CERTAIN WHETHER EITHER INCIDENT IS CONNECTED TO THE ERUPTION OF MT. FUJI, BUT...
ER... A CROW, ACTUALLY ...
PRIME MINISTER, I'M HERE TO RECEIVE YOUR ANSWER!
FWISH
FLAP
FLAP
A-ANSWER ?!
ULP ...
B-BUT THAT ...
TH-THAT ORDER WAS SO HEINOUS ...
I-IT'S NOT SOLELY UP TO ME. WE NEED TO CONVENE A NUMBER OF CABINET MEETINGS BEFORE IT CAN BE APPROVED...
DON'T PLAY DUMB! ABOUT WHETHER YOU'LL DO AS WE COMMANDED OR NOT!

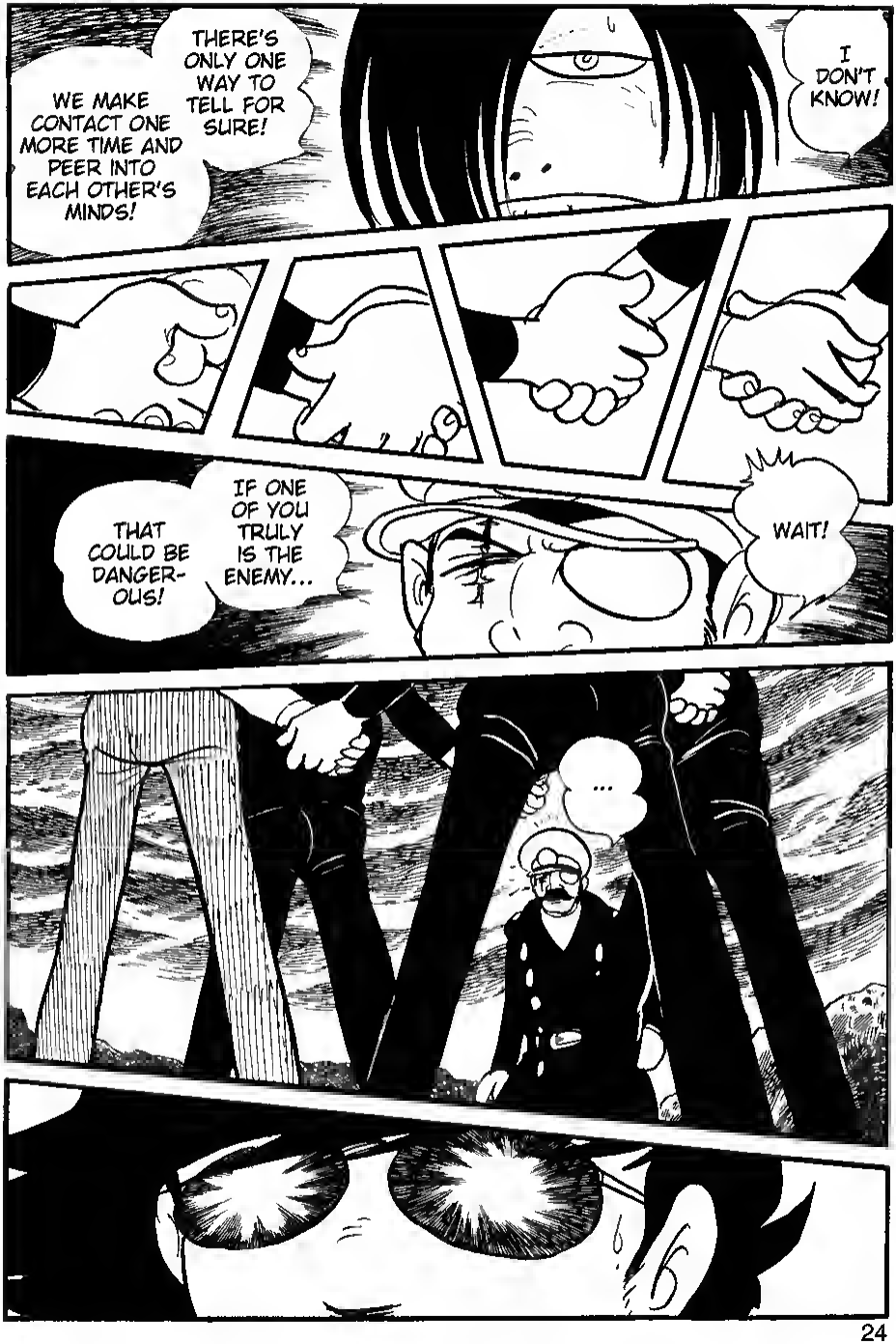
YOUR ANSWER, SIR?
WH-WHO THE DEVIL ARE YOU PEOPLE?!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
RIGHT NOW, YOU EITHER GIVE ME A "YES" OR "NO"!
THERE'S NO TIME FOR THAT!
M-MIXING TOXINS INTO THE FOOD AND DRINKING WATER OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS NATION! I COULD NEVER BRING MYSELF TO DO THAT!!
IT'S PREPOSTEROUS!
THAT'S ENOUGH OUT OF YOU!
ALL WE ASK IS THAT YOU MAKE A CONSCIOUS EFFORT TO INCREASE THE AMOUNTS SLIGHTLY!
HMPH!
AND YET YOU'VE BEEN DOING SO ALL ALONG.
GOT IT!
SPLAT
WHAK

BUT YOU KNOW WHAT THE CONSEQUENCES WILL BE. EXACTLY AS IT WAS SPELLED OUT ON THE TAPE!
TONIGHT AT MIDNIGHT ...
WE MOVE TO PHASE TWO OF THE D.J.P.!
AND SO, MY FRIENDS ...
WE SHALL MAKE THAT MOUNTAIN ERUPT!


THE TOWNS SURROUNDING THE FOOTHILLS OF THE MOUNTAIN WILL DROWN IN A SEA OF FIRE!
SO BEGIN THE PSYCHO-RING IMMEDIATELY TO INCREASE YOUR POWER LEVELS!

LINK YOUR MINDS TOGETHER, MY FRIENDS, TO BECOME ONE MASSIVE ÜBERMIND!

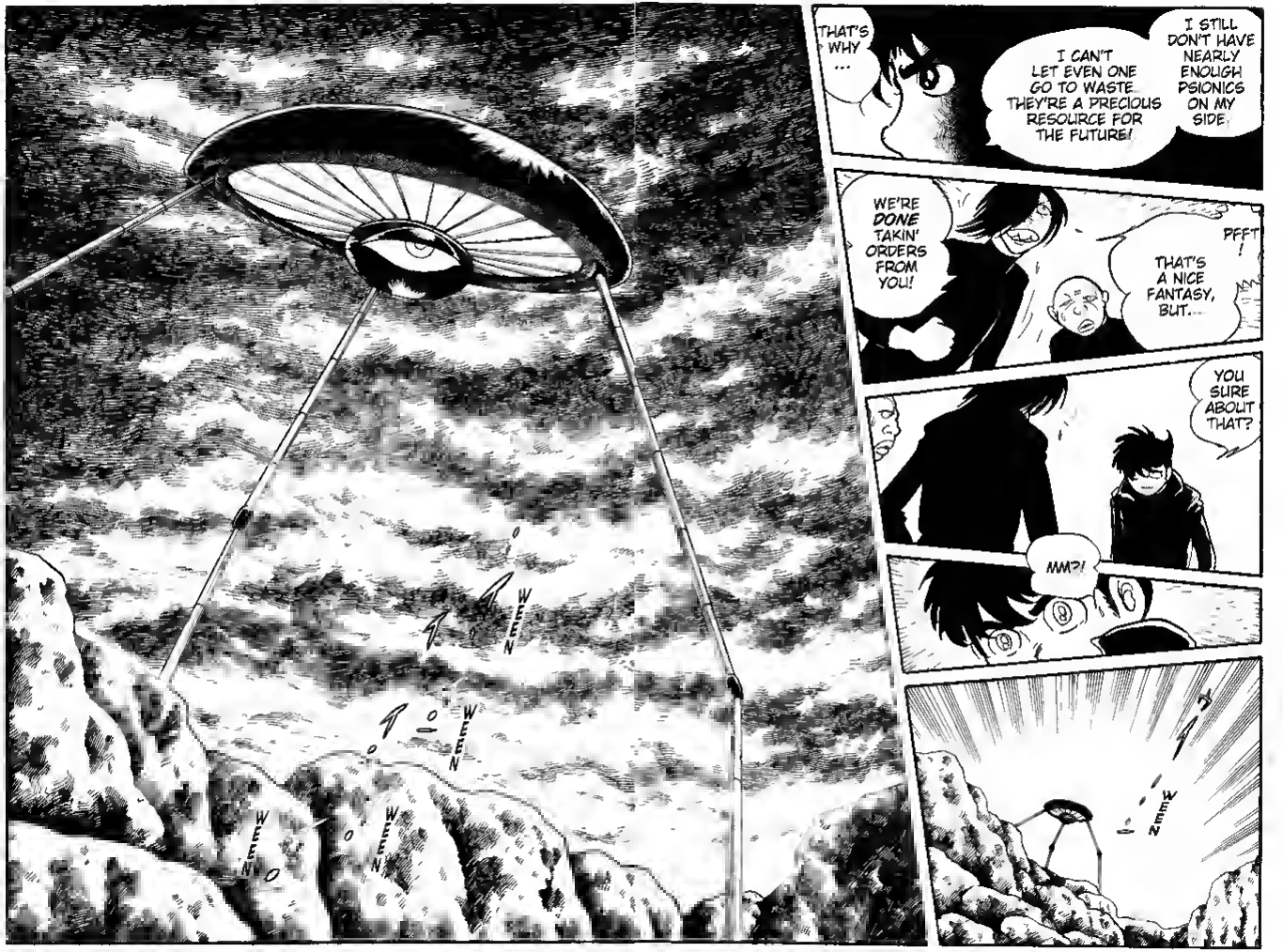
THERE'S DIS-CORD IN THE LINK!
SOME-THING'S OFF!
GENE-RAL ...
...
WHAT ?!
I CAN HEAR STATIC!
ONE AMONG US DOESN'T BELONG!
OUR MINDS AREN'T IN SYNC!
THAT THERE'S A TRAITOR IN THE RANKS?!
WHAT ARE YOU SUGGEST-ING?!
WHO IS IT?!

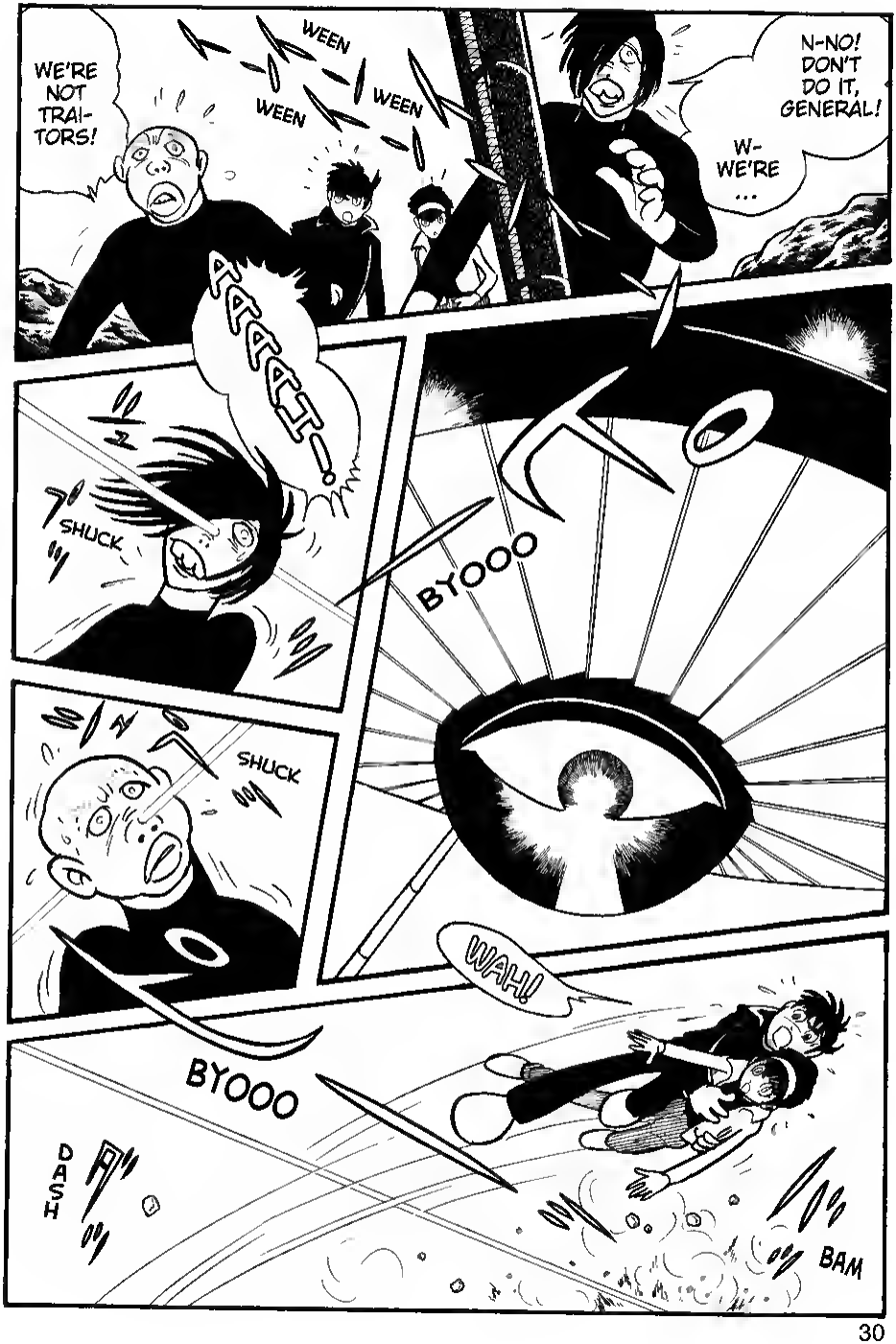

I DON'T KNOW!
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO TELL FOR SURE!
WE MAKE CONTACT ONE MORE TIME AND PEER INTO EACH OTHER'S MINDS!
WAIT!
IF ONE OF YOU TRULY IS THE ENEMY...
THAT COULD BE DANGER-OUS!
...

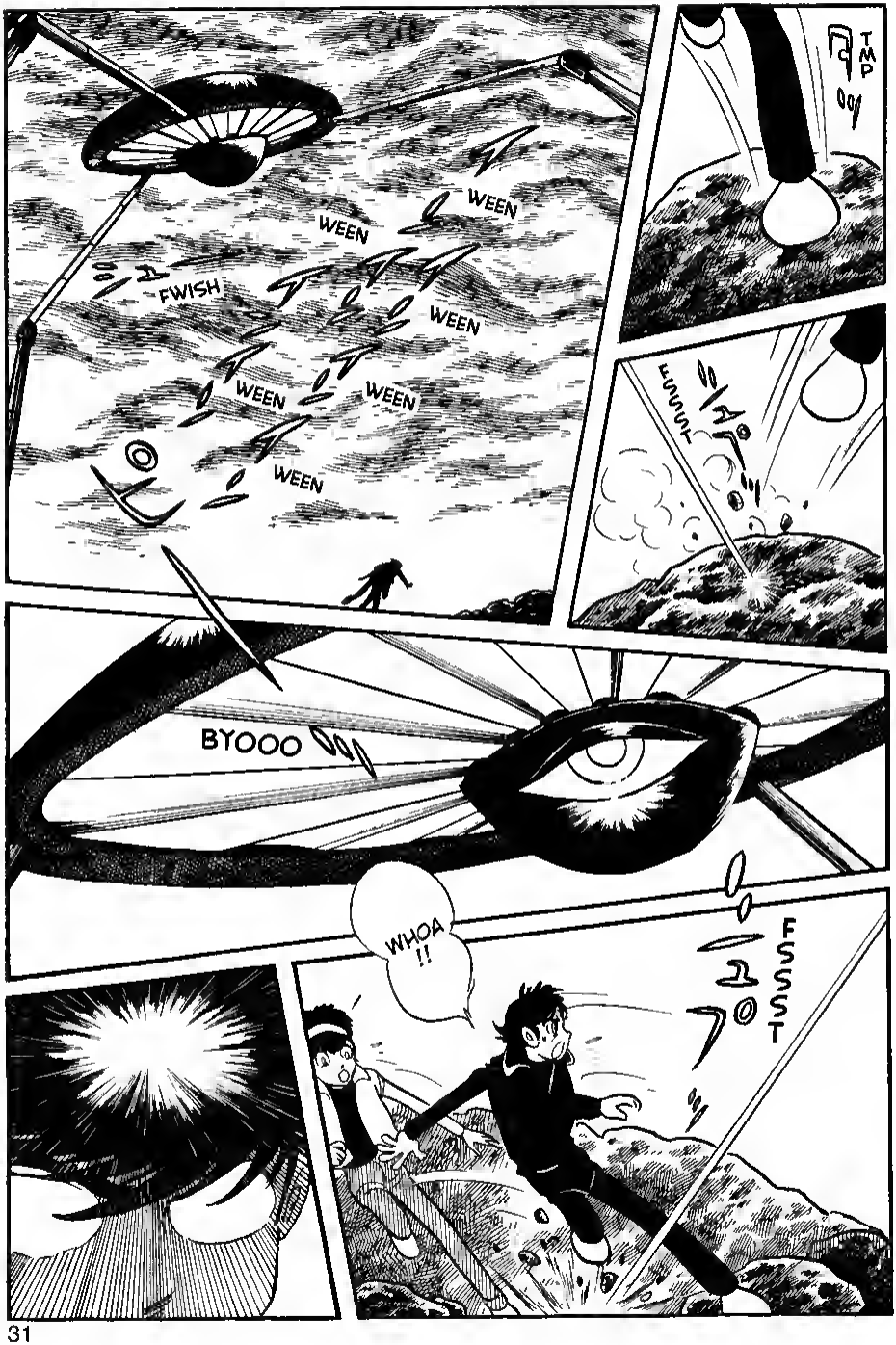
I'VE GOT IT!
THE PERSON WHO DOESN'T BELONG HERE...
THE TRAITOR... IS...
FWISH
ULP!
WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S WRONG?!
...
OH NO. YOUR EYES...!
AGH!
DASH
SWISH
GET HIM!

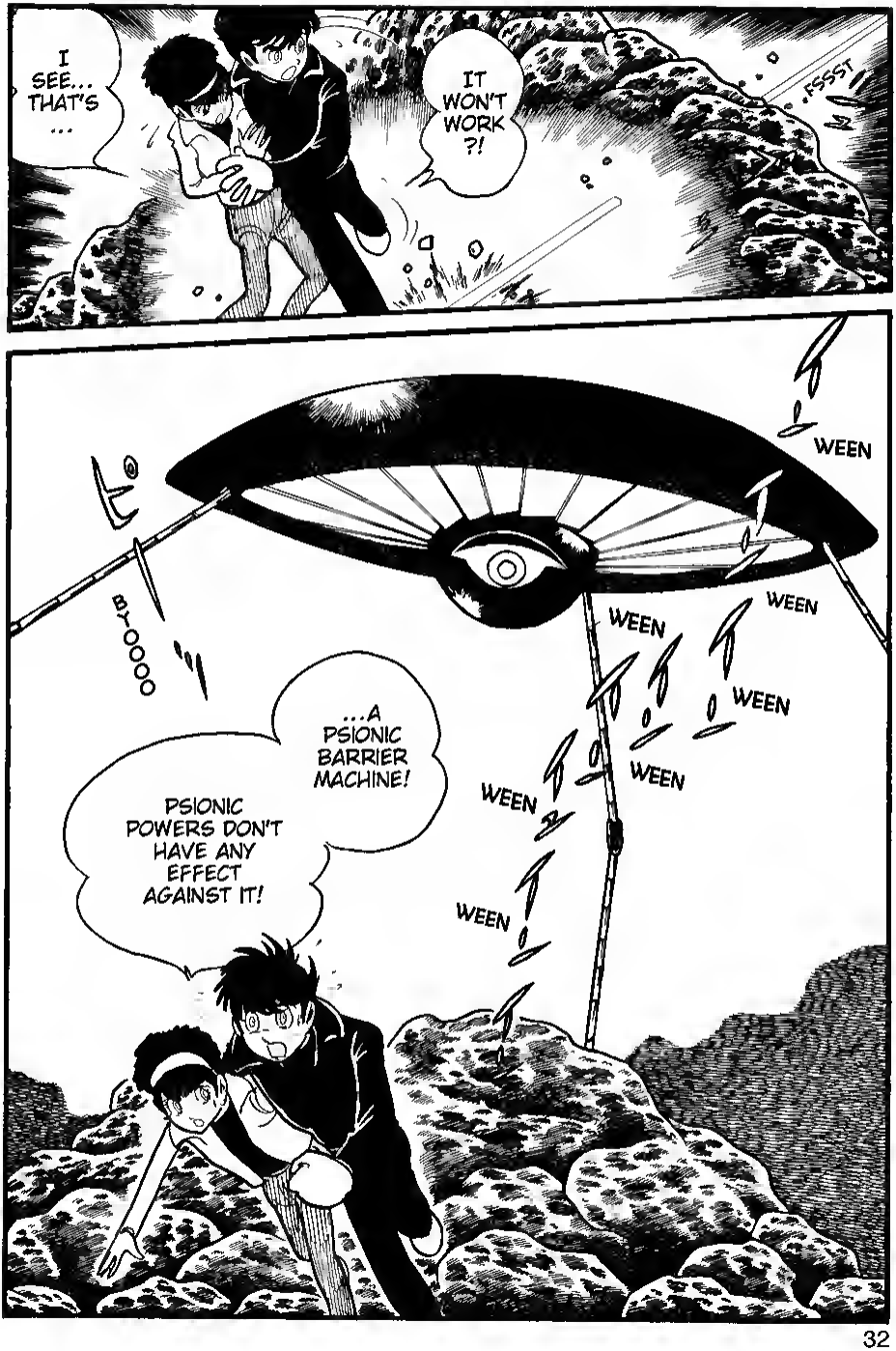
CRAP!
HE TELE-PORTED AWAY!
RUSTLE
HE'S A HIGH-LEVEL PSIONIC. WHEN IT COMES TO POWER, YOU PEOPLE AREN'T EVEN IN THE SAME LEAGUE.
ULP ...
NO WONDER HE'S CALLED THE GENERAL.

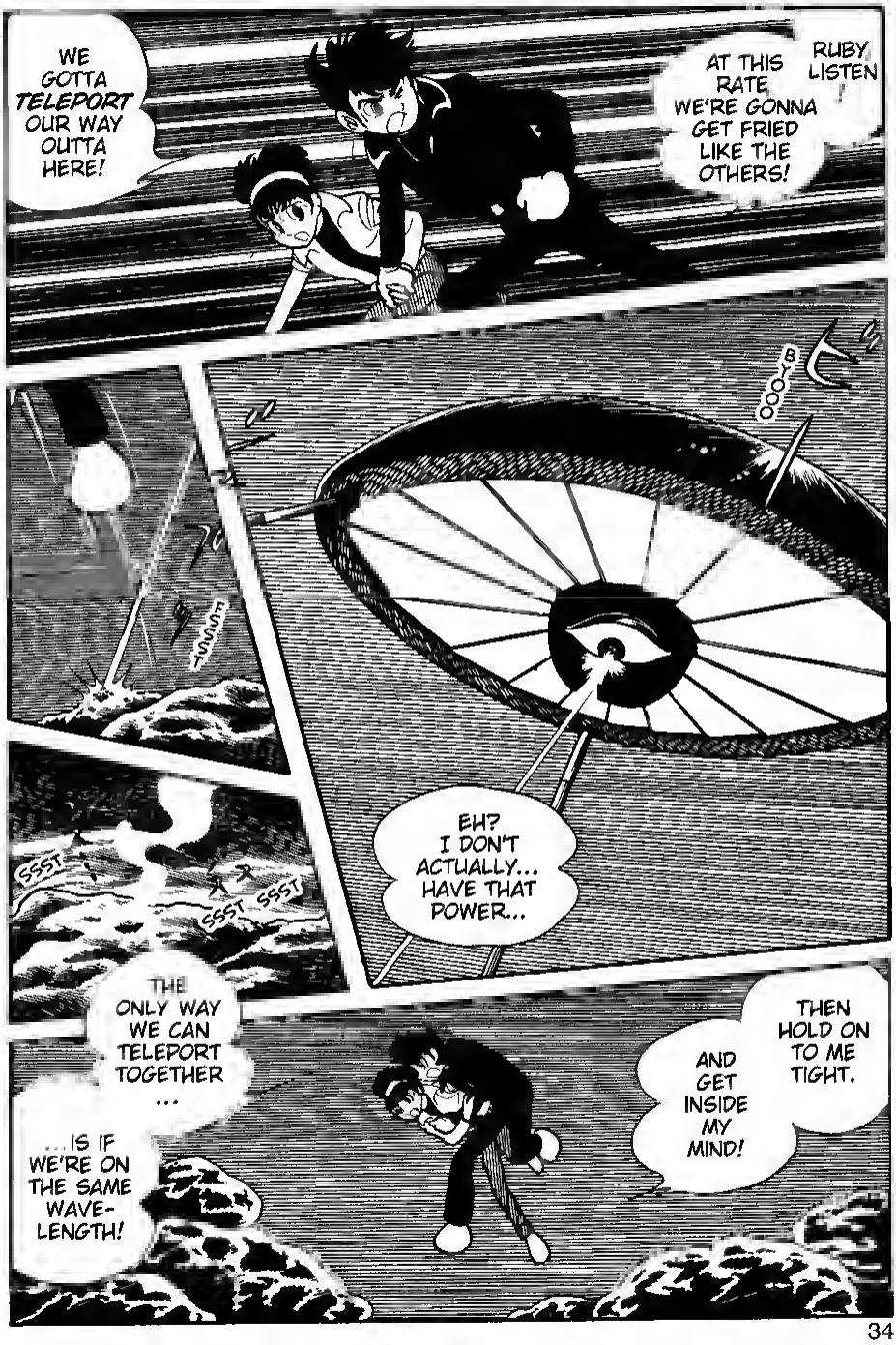
WHO ARE YOU?!
Y-YOU CON-TROLLED OUR MINDS!
I-I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
...KA-ZETA SABU-RO!
AND YOU MURDERED MY PARENTS!
I'M...
ULP ...
BUT, NO... I'M NOT GOING TO KILL YOU. INSTEAD, YOU'RE GONNA WORK FOR ME!
I'D LIKE NOTHING MORE!
Y-YOU'RE HERE FOR REVENGE ?!
K-KAZE-TA?!

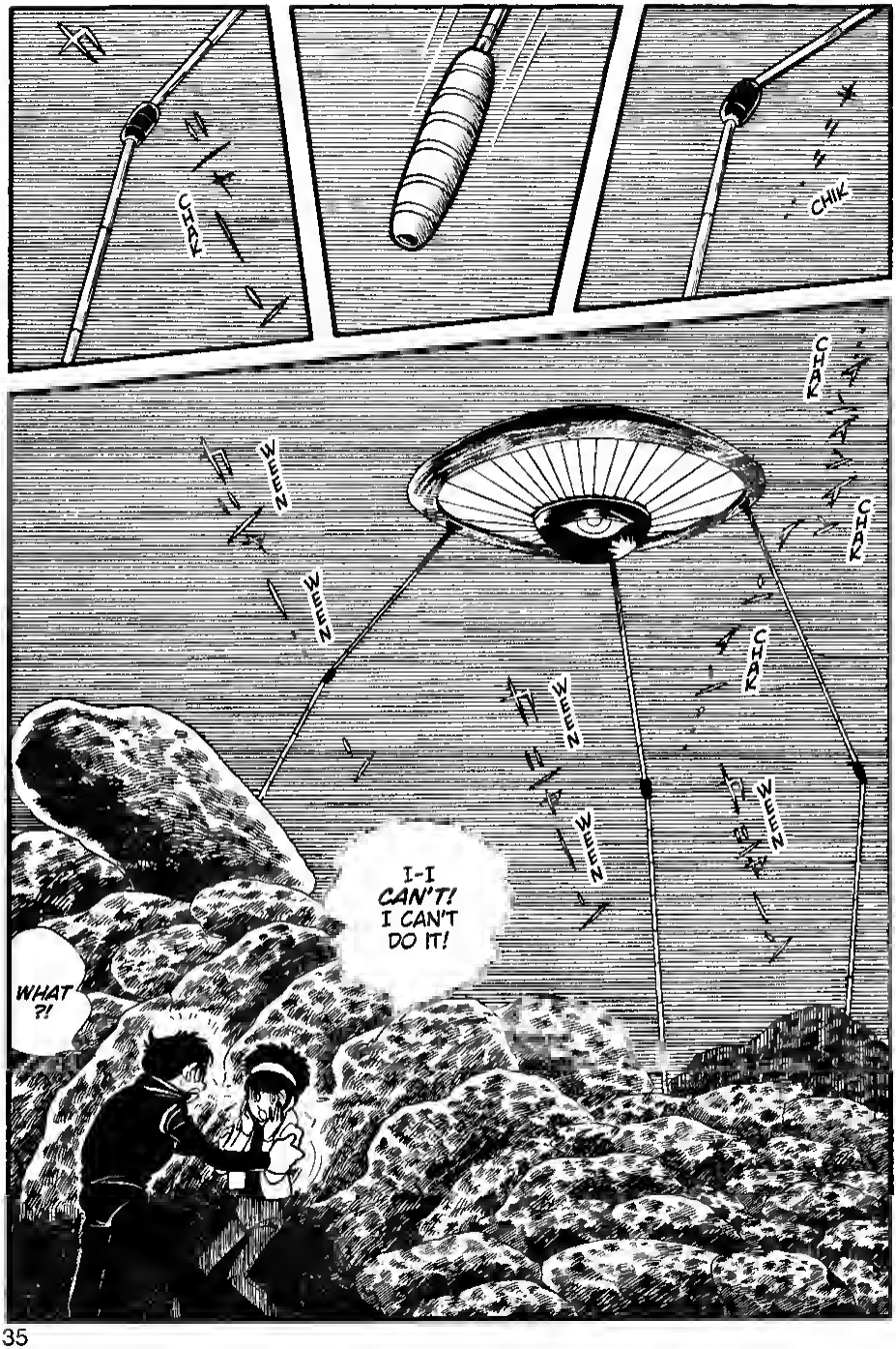

WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
THAT'S WHY ...
I CAN'T LET EVEN ONE GO TO WASTE. THEY'RE A PRECIOUS RESOURCE FOR THE FUTURE!
I STILL DON'T HAVE NEARLY ENOUGH PSIONICS ON MY SIDE.
WE'RE DONE TAKIN' ORDERS FROM YOU!
PFFT!
THAT'S A NICE FANTASY, BUT...
YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
MM?!
WEEN


WE'RE NOT TRAI-TORS!
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
N-NO! DON'T DO IT, GENERAL!
W-WE'RE ...
AAAAAH-!
SHUCK
BYOOO
SHUCK
WAH!
BYOOO
DASH
BAM

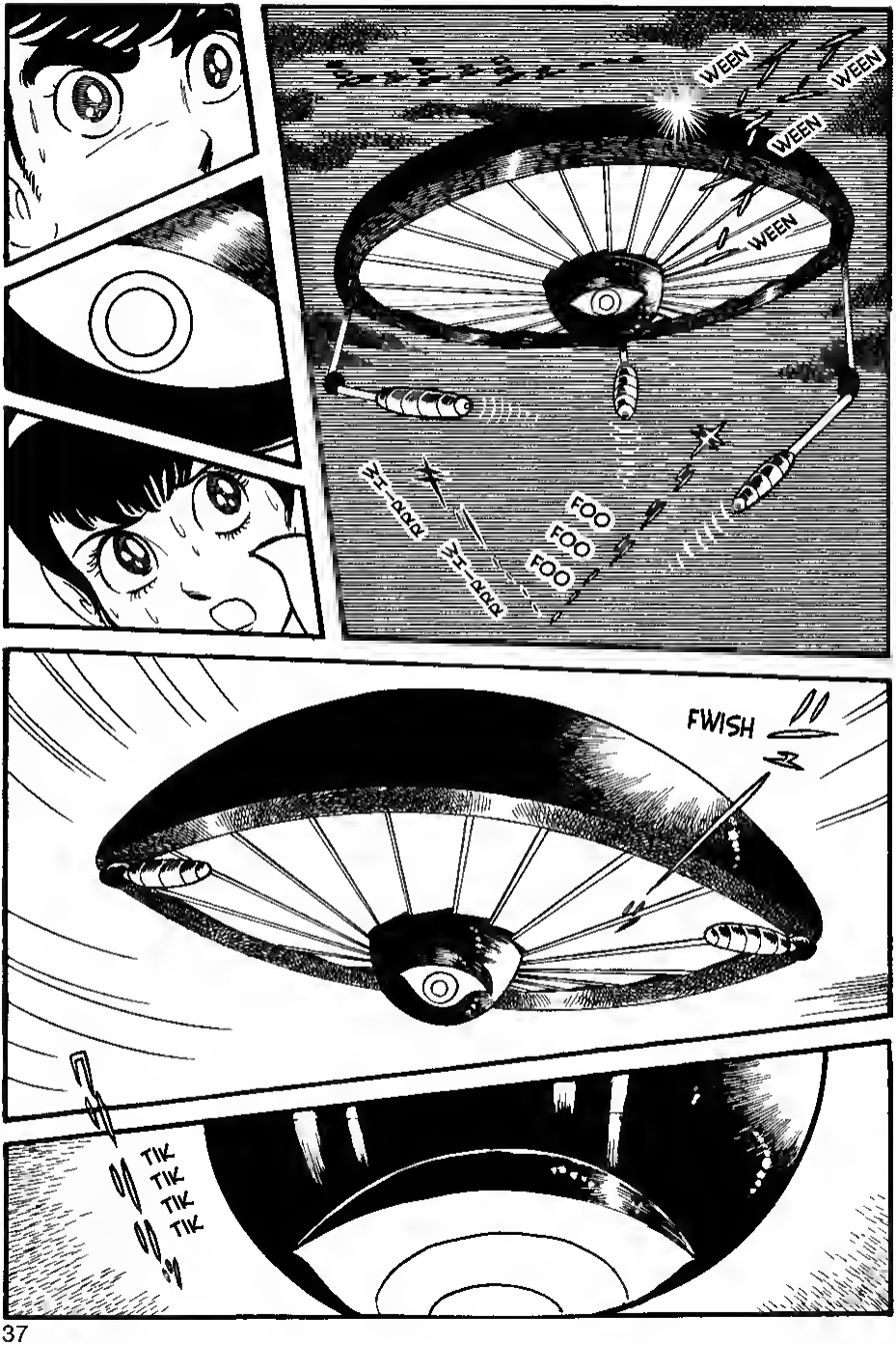

FWISH
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
TMP
BYOOO
WHOA !!
FSSST

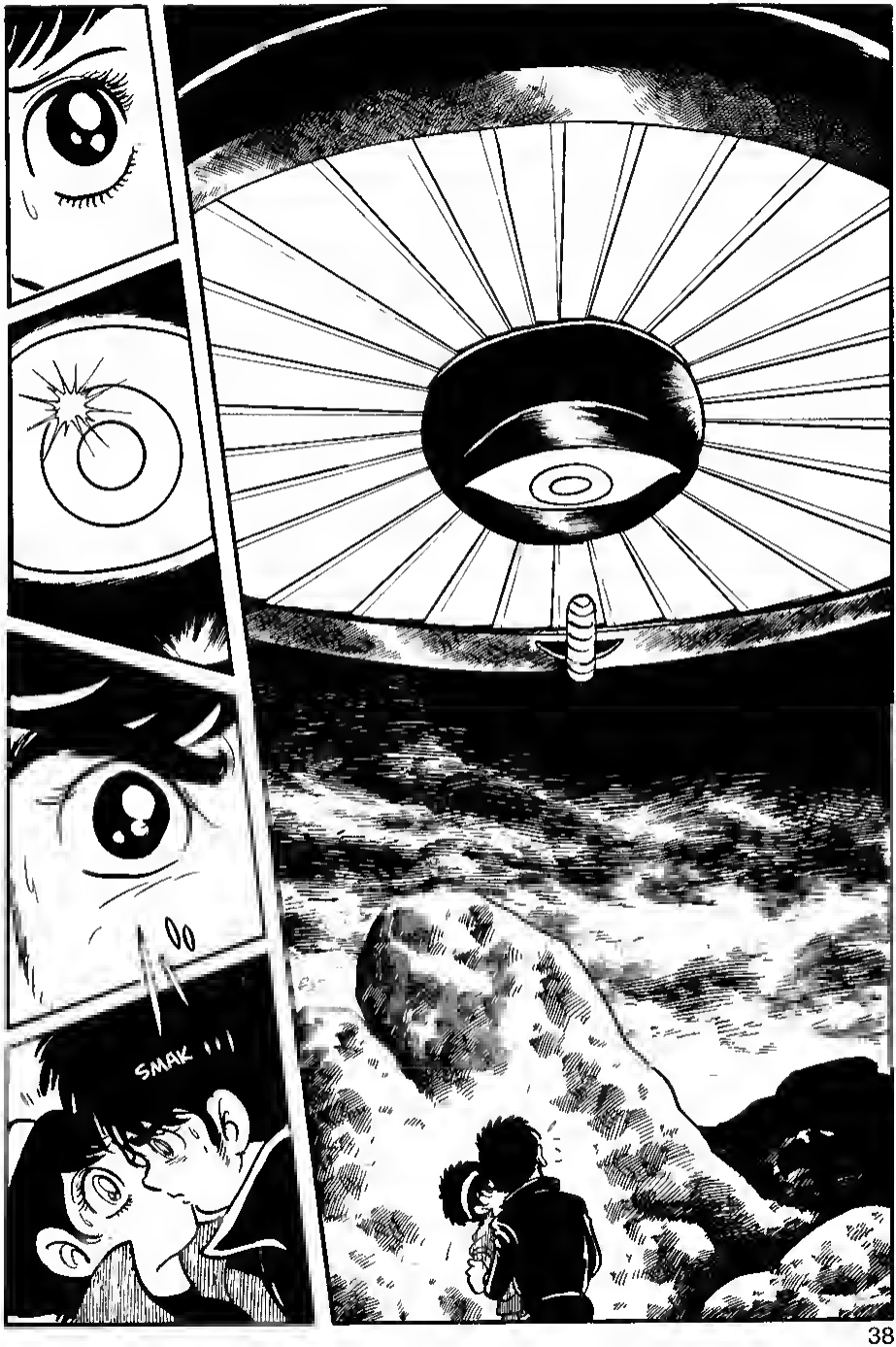

I SEE... THAT'S ...
IT WON'T WORK ?!
FSSST
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
BIOOOO
...A PSIONIC BARRIER MACHINE!
PSIONIC POWERS DON'T HAVE ANY EFFECT AGAINST IT!

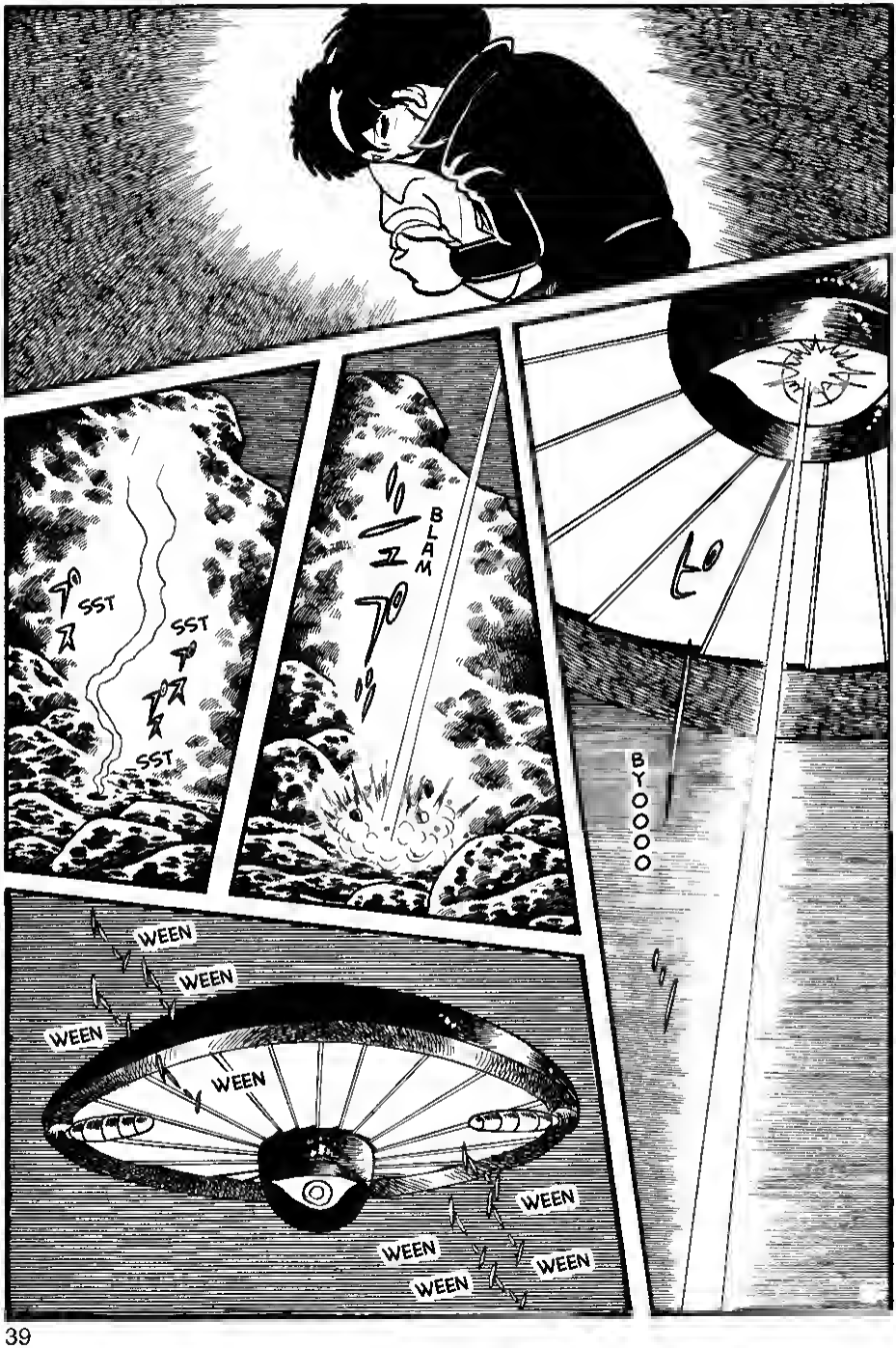

WE GOTTA TELEPORT OUR WAY OUTTA HERE!
RUBY LISTEN!
AT THIS RATE WE'RE GONNA GET FRIED LIKE THE OTHERS!
BOOO
SSSST
SSSST
SSSST
SSSST
EH? I DON'T ACTUALLY... HAVE THAT POWER...
THE ONLY WAY WE CAN TELEPORT TOGETHER ...
...IS IF WE'RE ON THE SAME WAVE-LENGTH!
AND GET INSIDE MY MIND!
THEN HOLD ON TO ME TIGHT.

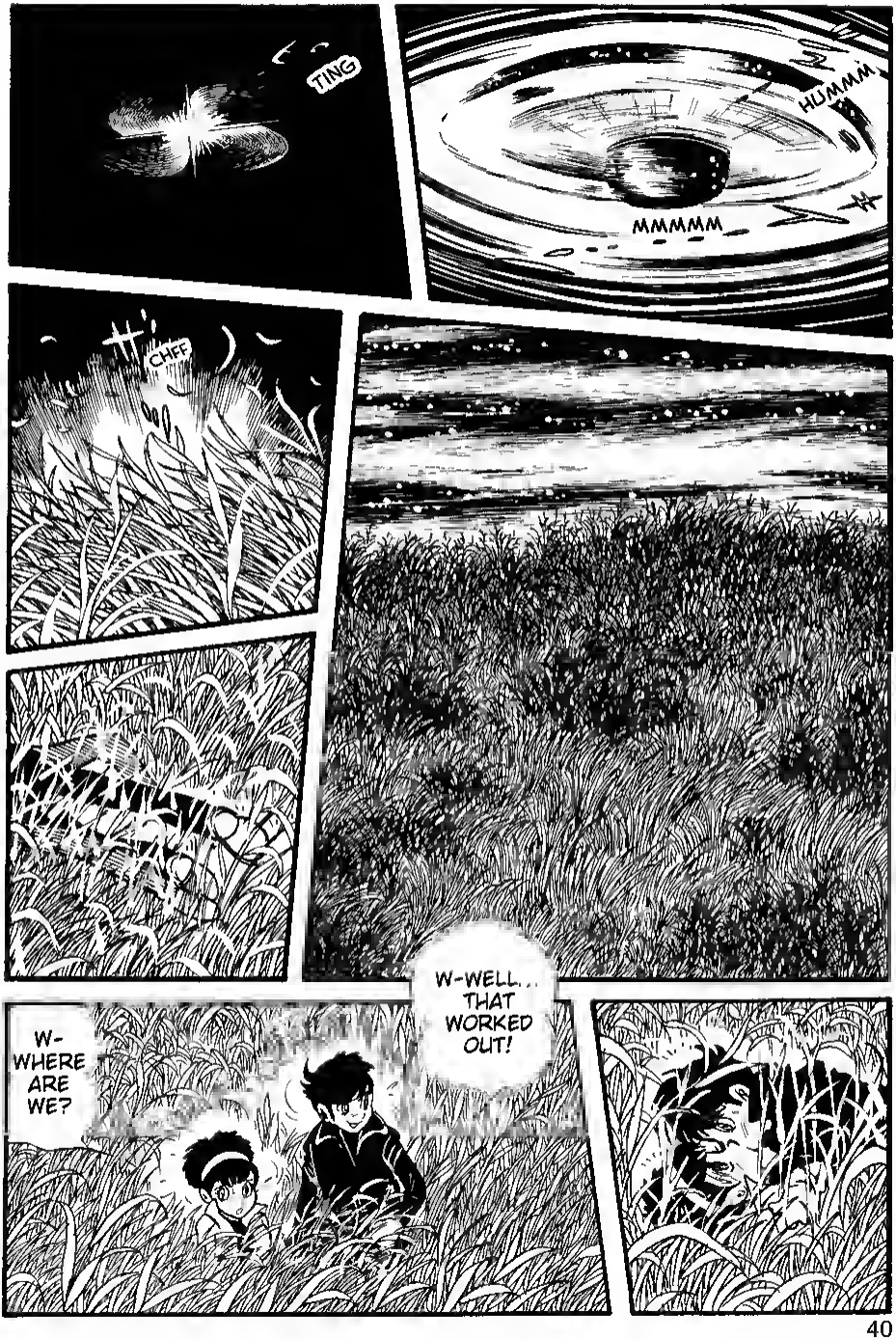

CHAK
CHIK
CHAK
CHAK
CHAK
CHAK
WUEN
WUEN
WUEN
WUEN
WUEN
I-I CAN'T! I CAN'T DO IT!
WHAT?!

YOU DO HAVE THE POWER! YOU CAN DO IT!
REMEMBER WHEN YOU USED MASS HYPNOSIS ON THAT CROWD?!
WHAT'S SO DIFFERENT ABOUT THE HUMAN MIND?!
YOU CAN GET INTO THE MINDS OF ANIMALS, CAN'T YOU?!
Y-YOU STILL HATE ME FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR HEART!!
I-I CAN'T ...
YOU'RE DIFFER-ENT!
...!
YOU DON'T SHOW IT, BUT THAT HATRED IS PUTTING UP A WALL IN YOUR MIND, JUST LIKE THE BARRIER MACHINE!
WHOA!
BYOOO
FSSS
WHIRRR
WHIRRR
WHIRRR
AH!


WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
FOO
FOO
FOO
FWISH
TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK


SMAK !!!


SST
SST
SST
BLAM
BYOOOO
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN


TING
HUMMM
MMMMM
CHFF
W-WELL... THAT WORKED OUT!
W-WHERE ARE WE?

...
WHEW
THAT'S HOW TELEPORTATION WORKS. YOU CAN ONLY GO TO A PLACE YOU KNOW REALLY WELL.
A RIVER-BED NEAR MY TOWN.
OH... NO!
THAT'S NOT WHY!
SORRY. THAT'S THE ONLY WAY I COULD THINK OF TO MAKE OUR MINDS ONE.
UGH ...
B-BUT NOW WE'RE ON THE SAME SIDE, AREN'T WE?
Y-YES!
F-FROM NOW ON, WE'LL FIGHT TOGE-THER!
...
...EVEN THOUGH I'M YOUR ENEMY!
YOU COULD'VE ESCAPED BY YOURSELF AND LEFT ME THERE... BUT YOU DIDN'T ...
I'M CRYING BECAUSE I'M HAPPY!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

SHU SHU
ZmmmmZ
TING
GASP
AH!
LOOK OUT !
SWISH
FSSST
OOOO-Y

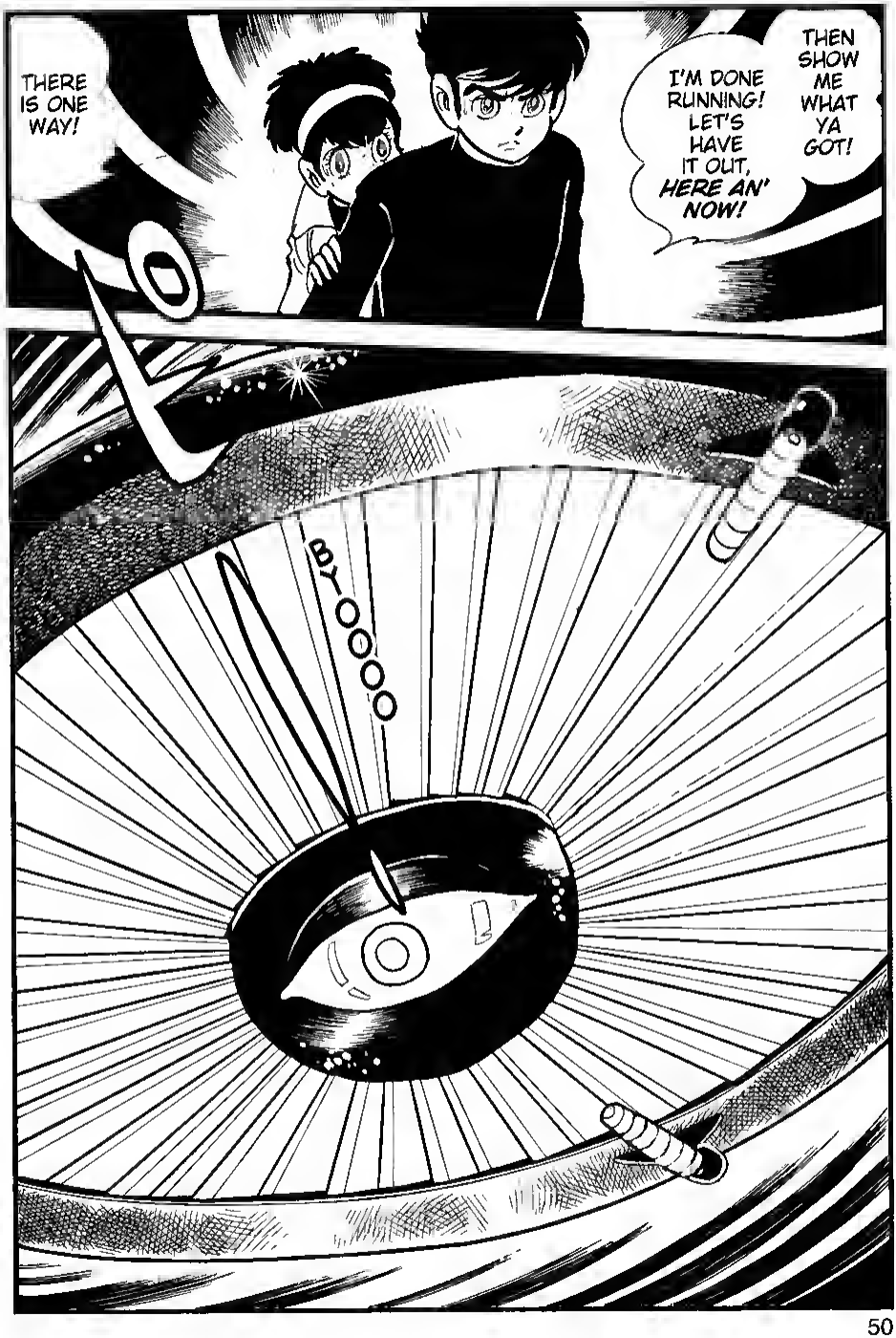
...CAN TELEPORT TOO!
THAT ... THAT BARRIER MACHINE ...
TH-THEN ...
BLAST
KRAK
BYOOO
I-IT MUST RUN ON...
...THE PSIONIC POWER OF ITS PILOT!
BYOOOO
THE MACHINE CAN USE PSIONIC POWER!!

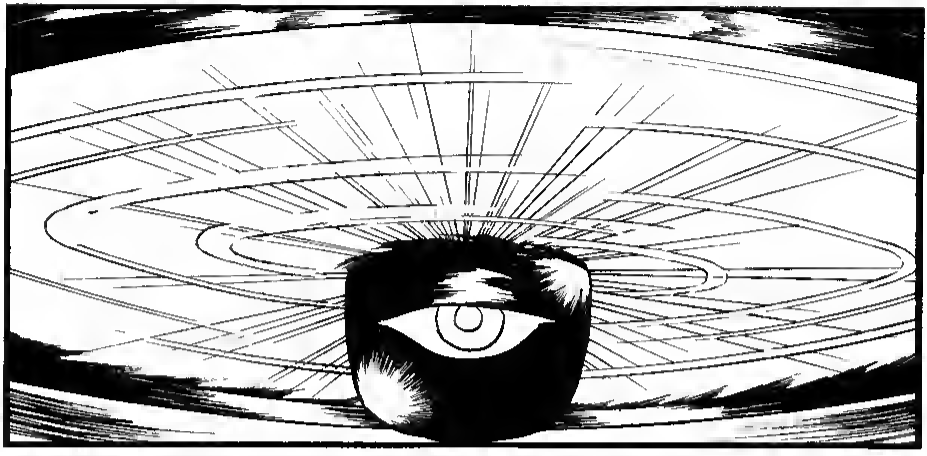
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
NAAA
N-NOW WHERE ARE WE?
H-HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS PLACE?!
NOT IN JAPAN.
THIS IS A SMALL DESERT ISLAND IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC!
DO
DO
DO
DO
PSSST
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN
WEEN

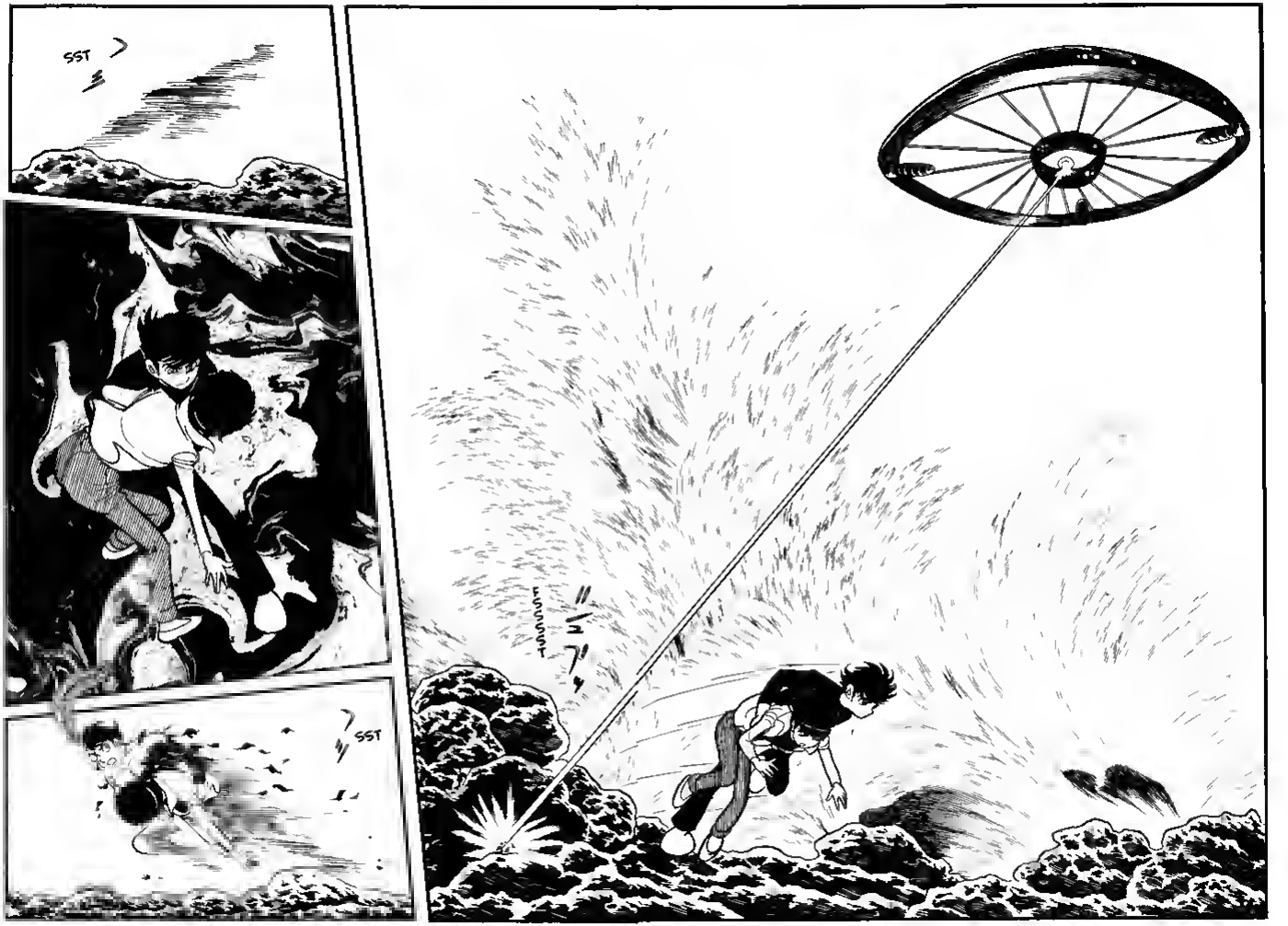
I WANNA GET SOME ADVICE!
...
I'VE GOT TO REPORT THAT THE ENEMY'S DEVELOPED IT AND IF POSSIBLE...
I'M NO MATCH FOR THAT MACHINE ON MY OWN!
I MET A FRIEND HERE BEFORE.
ZAAA
NOBODY'S HERE!
STRANGE. NOBODY'S ANSWERING MY TELEPATHY CALL!
DUN
DUN
DUN
DUN
DUN
ESCAPE BY YOURSELF!
SA-BURO. DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.
EH?!

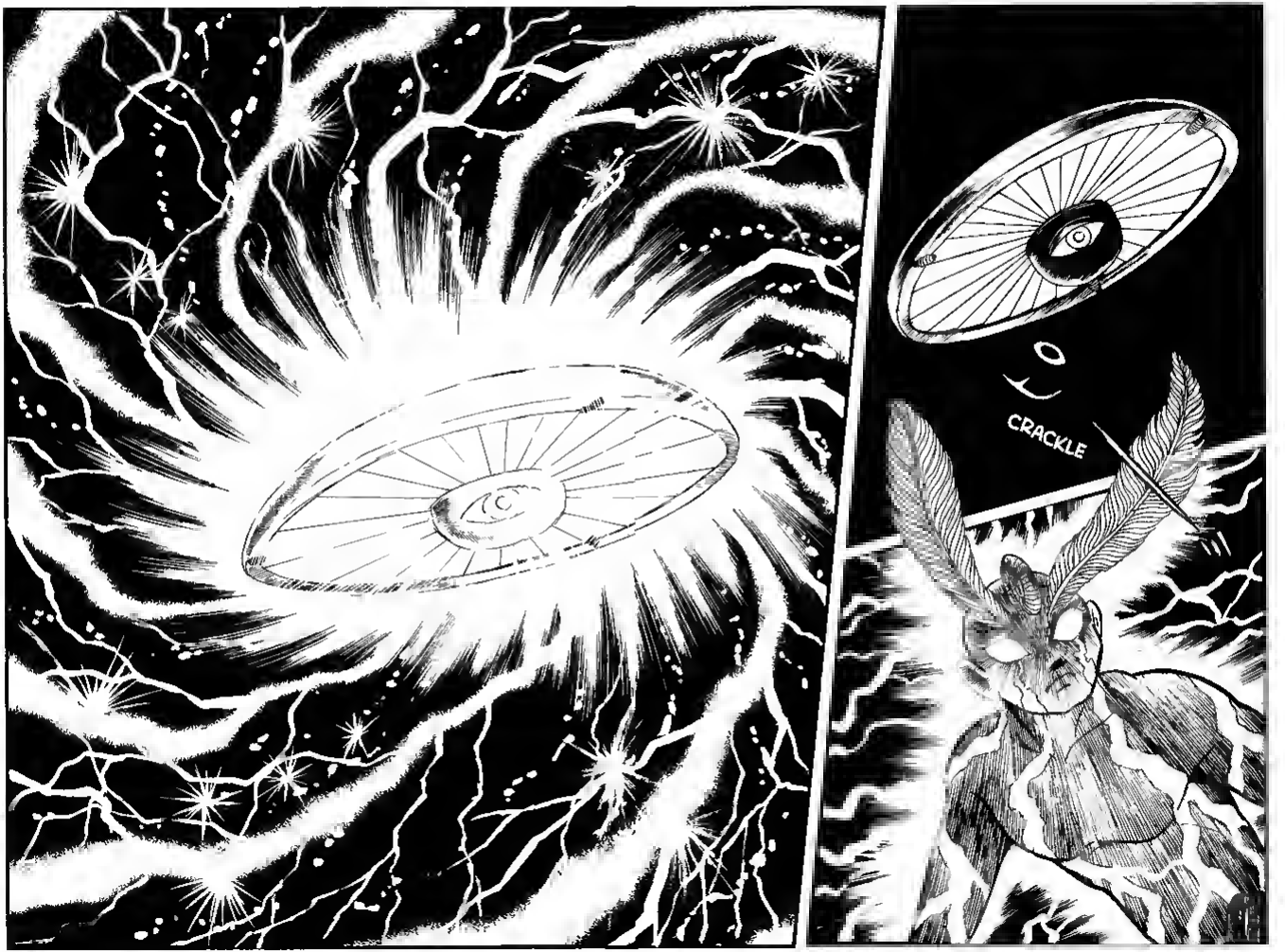
THEN HE HAS ALL THE DATA RELATED TO ME!
IF THE PILOT IS THE GENERAL ...
FSSSSSS
THAT MACHINE'S TRACKING ME!
I'VE HEARD THAT ONCE THAT BRAINWAVE HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED, IT CAN BE TRACED ANYWHERE!!
THE POWER OF EACH PSIONIC HAS A SIGNATURE. A BRAINWAVE THAT'S AS UNIQUE AS A FINGERPRINT.
DO
DO
DO
DON'T BOTHER ME WITH NONSENSE WHEN I'M TRYING TO THINK!
B-BUT ...
SHUT UP!
IF ONLY YOU TELEPORT AWAY, NOT EVEN THE GENERAL WILL BE ABLE TO PURSUE YOU!!
S-SO IF YOU ...
FSSSSSS
TCH!

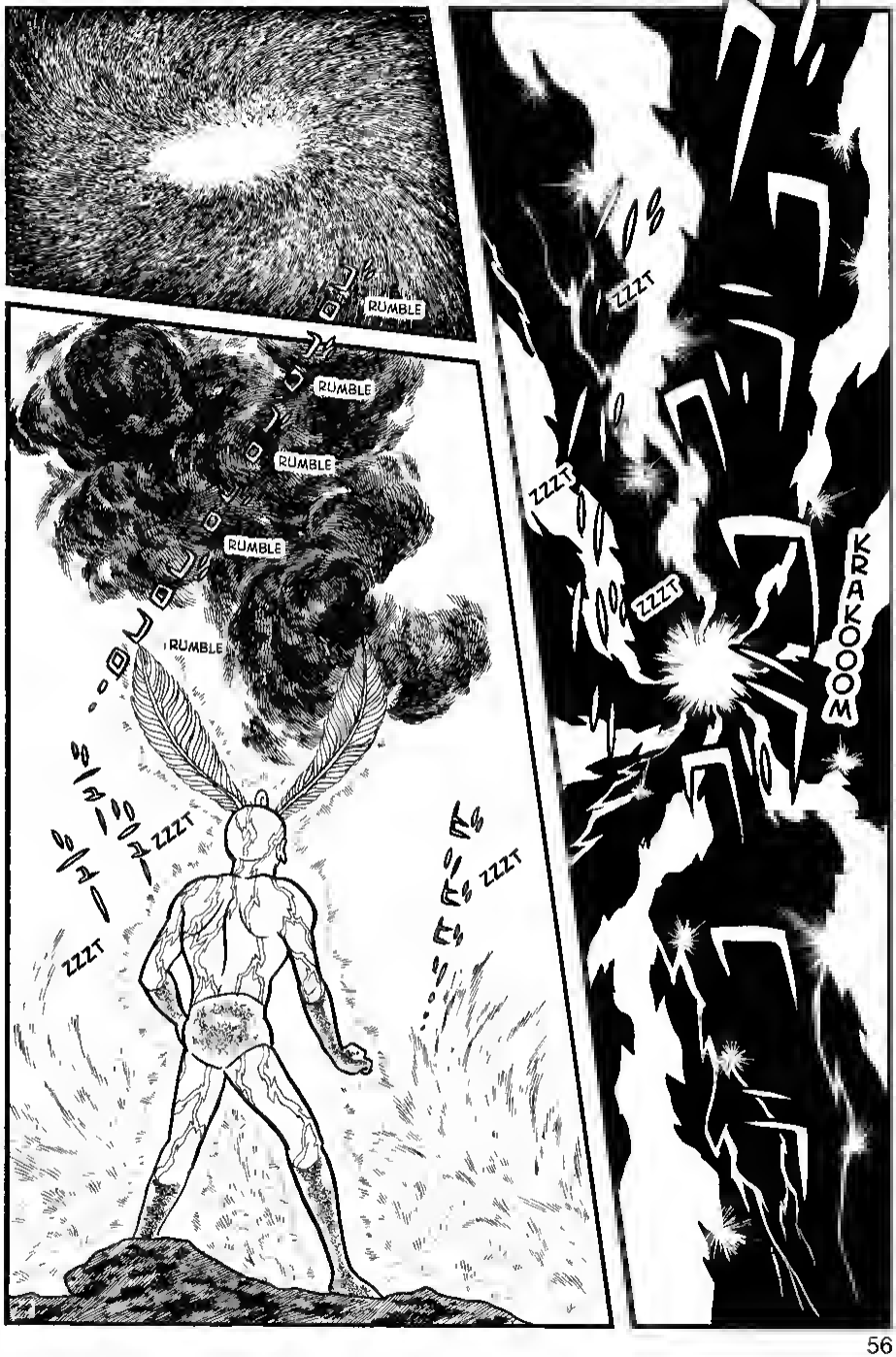
NNNNNN-IX
SABURO, IT'S HERE!
..
UGH ..
DON'T MISJUDGE ME, IDIOT!
YOU THINK I'M THE KINDA GUY WHO'D BAIL ON A GIRL LIKE THAT?!
ZA ZA ZAA
!!
SO DON'T WORRY. I SWEAR THAT I'LL SAVE THE BOTH OF US! WE'LL EITHER GET AWAY OR DESTROY THAT THING, 'CAUSE THERE HAS TO BE A WAY!!
LOOK, RUBY. I APPRECIATE THE SENTIMENT JUST TELLING ME THAT INCREASED MY COURAGE A HUNDREDFOLD!
C'MON.. STOP CRYING!
SABURO ..
DUN
ZA ZA ZAA
FWISH


THERE IS ONE WAY!
I'M DONE RUNNING! LET'S HAVE IT OUT, HERE AN' NOW!
THEN SHOW ME WHAT YA GOT!
BYOOOO



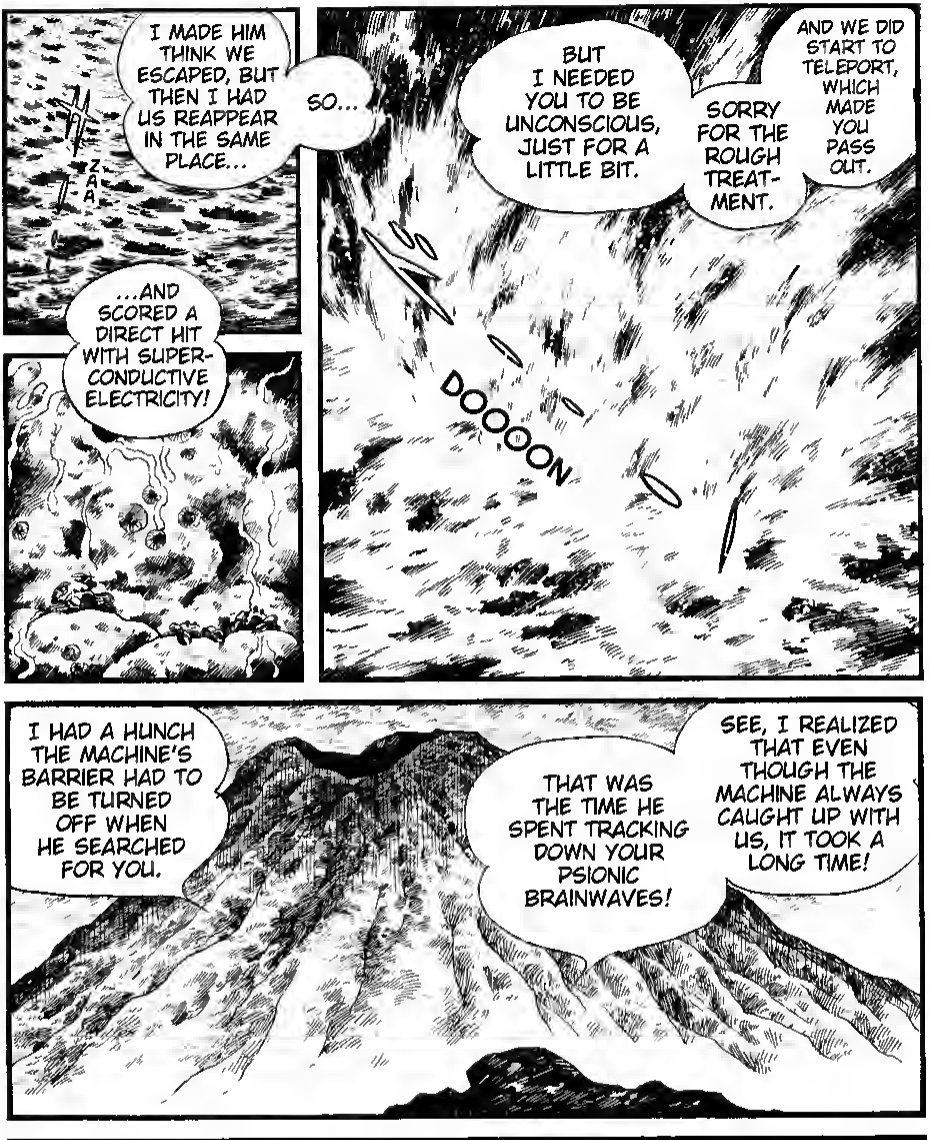

SST
SST
ハァハァ
UUUUUU


CRACKLE


RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
ZZZT
ZZZT
ZZZT
ZZZT
ZZZT
ZZZT
KRAKOOM

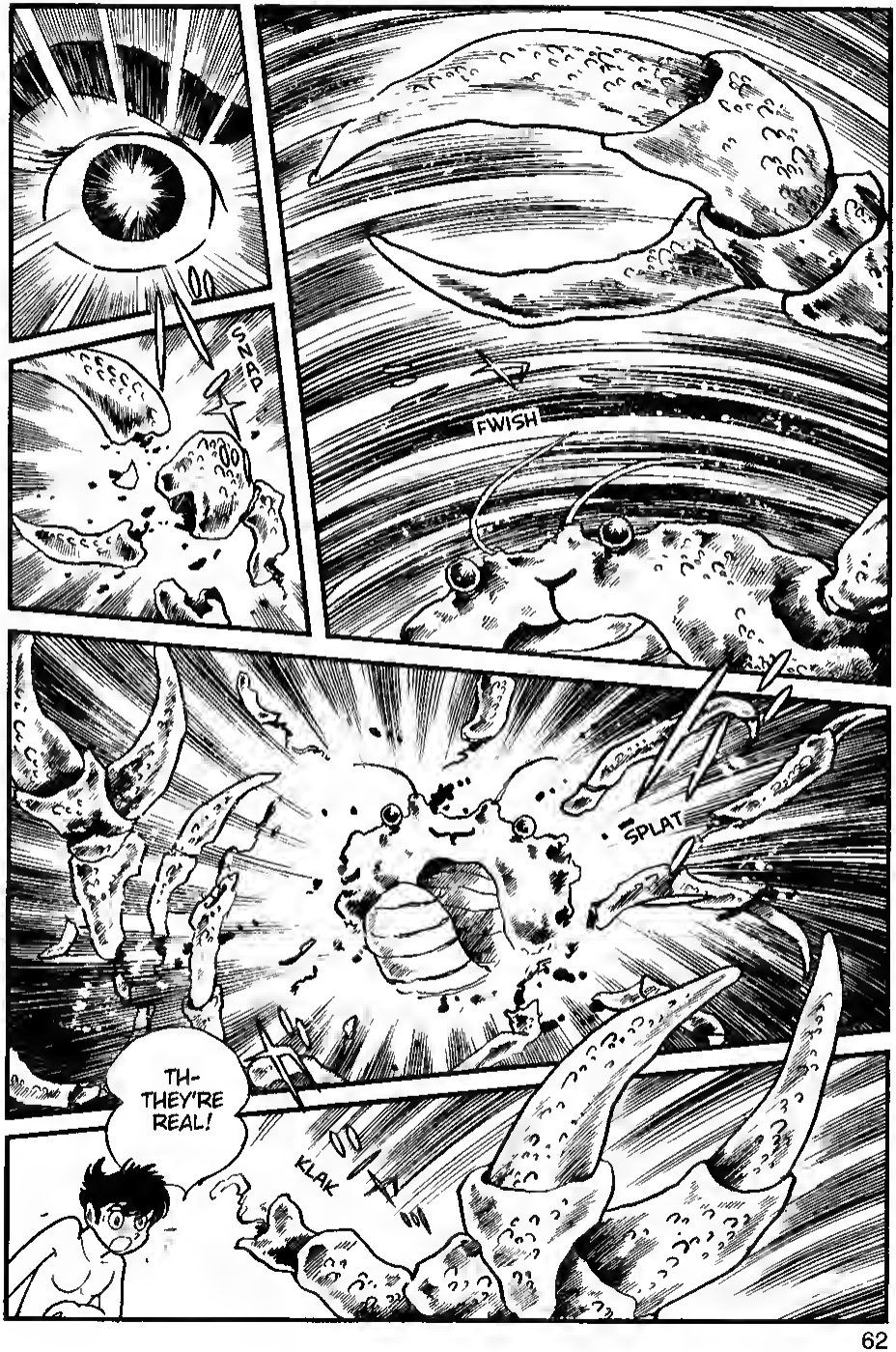
FLUTTER FLUTTER
FLUTTER FLUTTER
ZZT
ZZT
ZZT
ZZT
ZZT
WHEW!
YOU'RE AWAKE, RUBY?!
ULP!
SA-BURO?!
WHOOPS!
GAH!
KYAH!
EEK!

L-LET ME BORROW SOME-THING TO WEAR!
...
HEH HEH HEH ...
W-WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED ?!
I TOOK HIM OUT!
H-HOW?
FIRST, WHEN THAT BARRIER MACHINE SHOT AT US WITH ITS LASER LIKE BEFORE...
I MADE IT LOOK LIKE WE TELEPORTED AWAY!
DO
DO
DO


I MADE HIM THINK WE ESCAPED, BUT THEN I HAD US REAPPEAR IN THE SAME PLACE...
SO...
ZAA
...AND SCORED A DIRECT HIT WITH SUPER-CONDUCTIVE ELECTRICITY!
BUT I NEEDED YOU TO BE UNCONSCIOUS, JUST FOR A LITTLE BIT.
SORRY FOR THE ROUGH TREAT-MENT.
AND WE DID START TO TELEPORT, WHICH MADE YOU PASS OUT.
DOOOON
I HAD A HUNCH THE MACHINE'S BARRIER HAD TO BE TURNED OFF WHEN HE SEARCHED FOR YOU.
THAT WAS THE TIME HE SPENT TRACKING DOWN YOUR PSIONIC BRAINWAVES!
SEE, I REALIZED THAT EVEN THOUGH THE MACHINE ALWAYS CAUGHT UP WITH US, IT TOOK A LONG TIME!
I FIGURED THE PILOT COULDN'T ATTACK WITH PSIONIC POWER FROM INSIDE!
AND SINCE IT WASN'T ABLE TO DO ANYTHING OTHER THAN ATTACK WITH ITS LASER CANNON MECHANISM...

IF YOU'RE IN AN EGG, YOU'RE SAFE, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU CAN'T GET OUT.
IT WAS THE SAME PRINCIPLE HERE. THE BARRIER PROTECTED THE PILOT FROM OUTSIDE PSYCHIC ATTACKS, BUT IT ALSO PREVENTED THE PILOT FROM DEPLOYING HIS OWN PSIONIC ABILITIES!
IT TURNS OUT I WAS RIGHT. FOR JUST A MOMENT, THE BARRIER WENT DOWN...
...SO HE COULD SEARCH FOR YOU...
AND THAT'S WHEN I STRUCK!
DO
DO
DO
DO
OUT-STAND-ING!
CERTAINLY, YOU SUCCEEDED IN DESTROYING MY MACHINE... BUT I'M STILL ALIVE!
MM?!
IT'S THE GENER-AL!

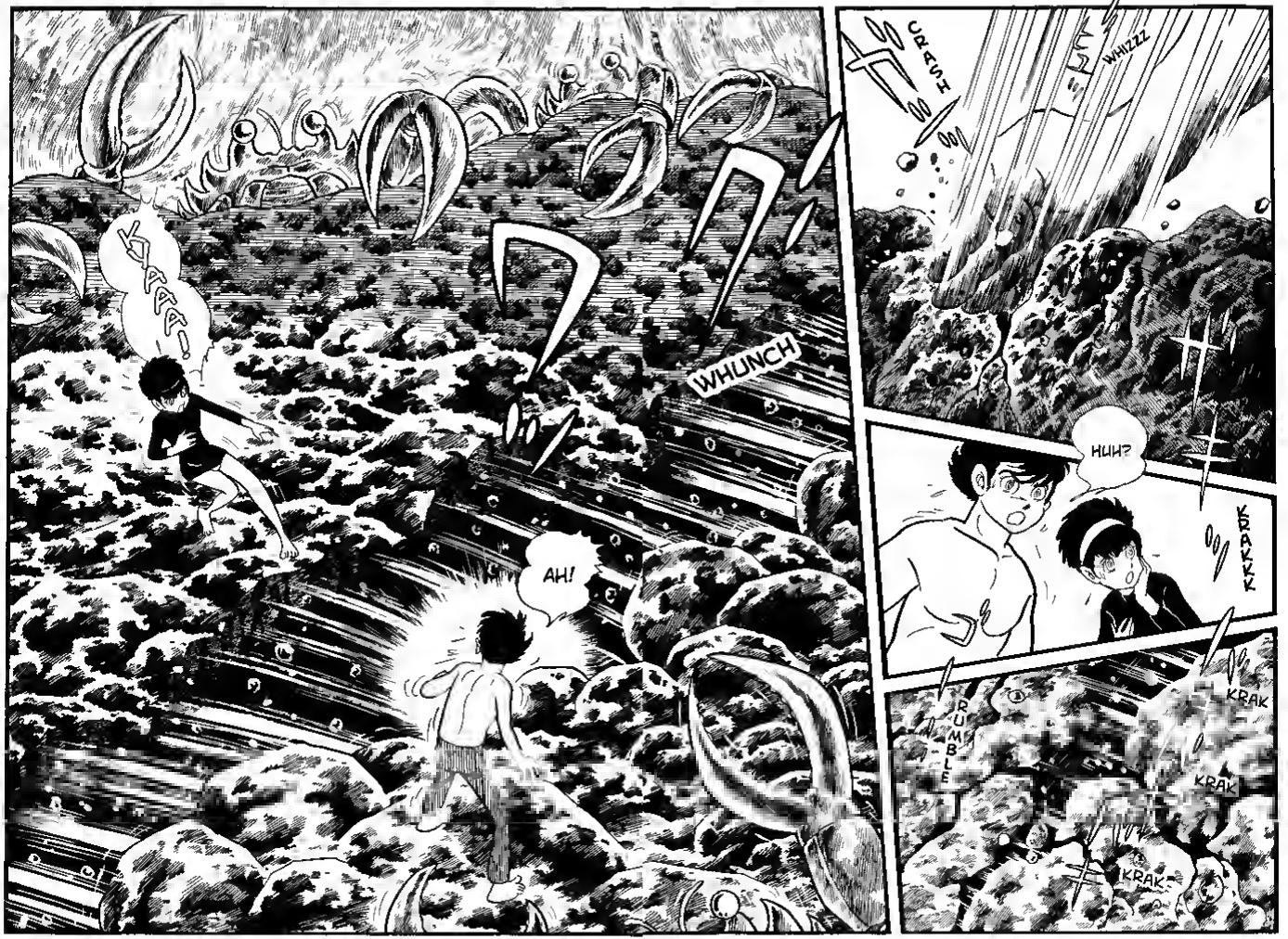
KLAK
KLAK KLAK KLAK
CRABS ?!
A HORDE OF GIANT CRABS!
SCUTTLE
SCUTTLE
SCUTTLE

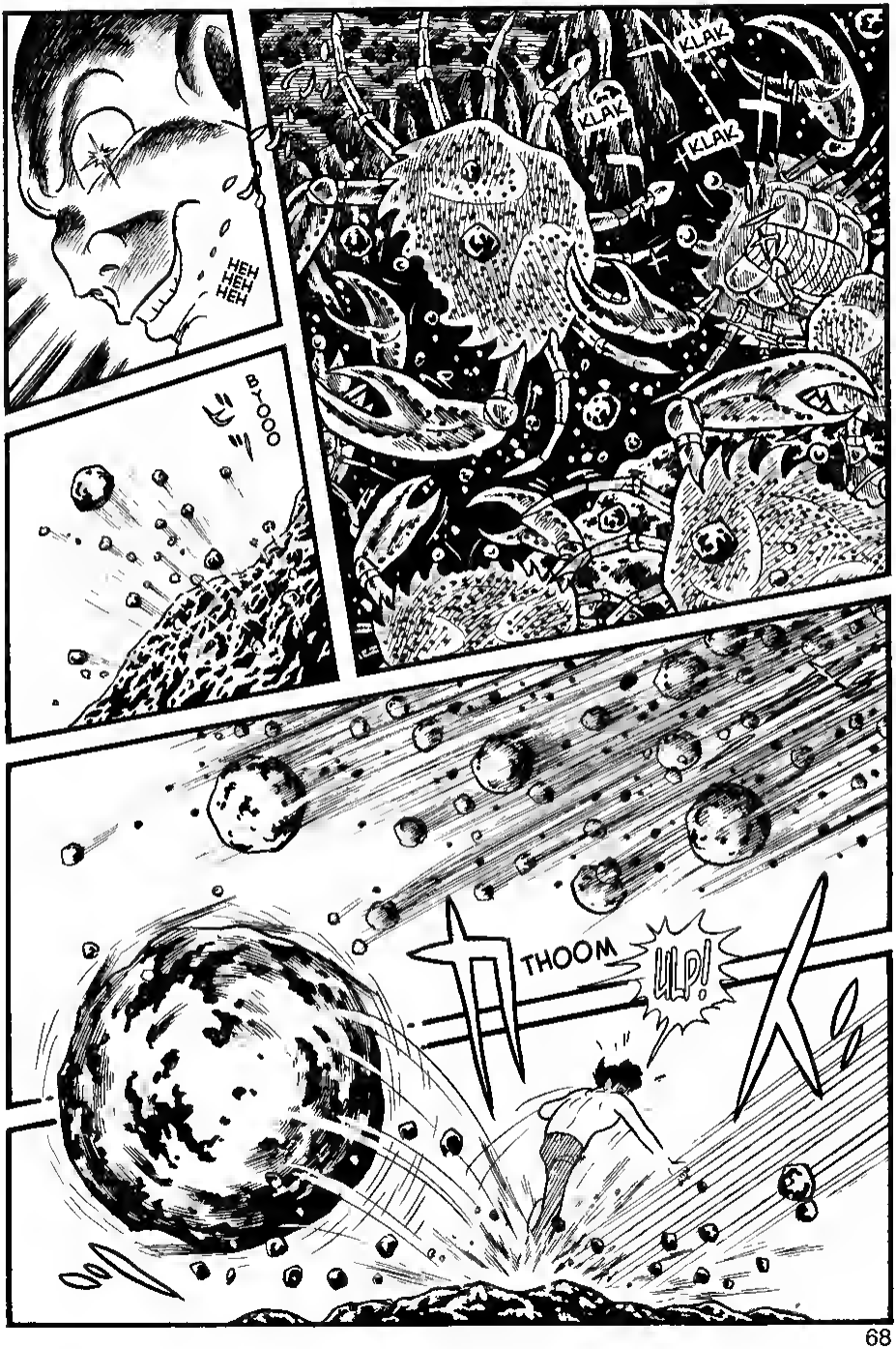

SNAP
FWISH
SPLAT
TH-THEY'RE REAL!
KLAK

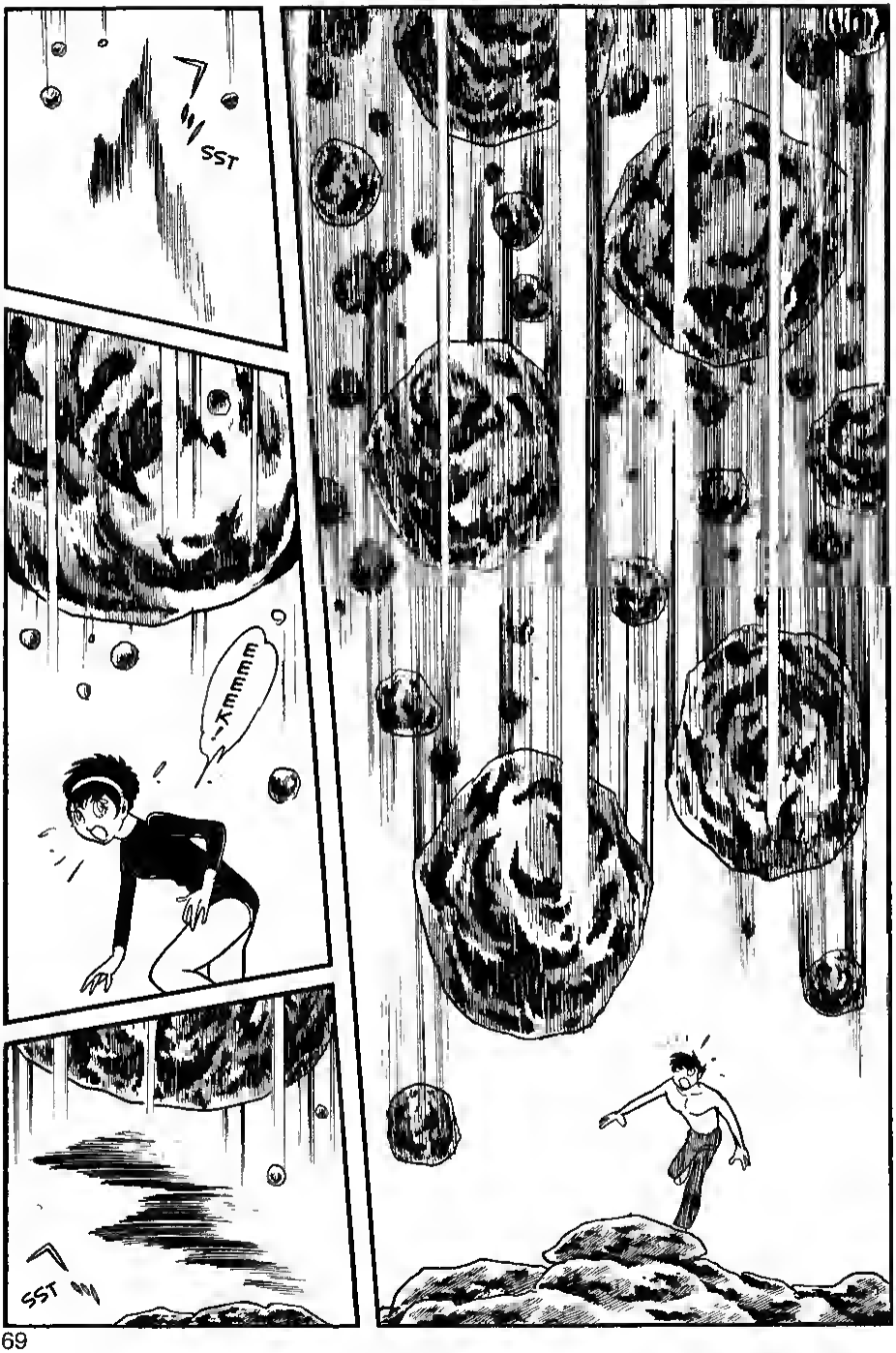
SWISH
AND SO AM I!
PRECISELY. THEY'RE ALL REAL CREATURES!
HEH HEH
KRAK
MM?!
HEH HEH
HE USED PSIONIC POWER ...
...TO ENLARGE THEIR CELLS!
HEH HEH HEH
HEH HEH HEH HEH

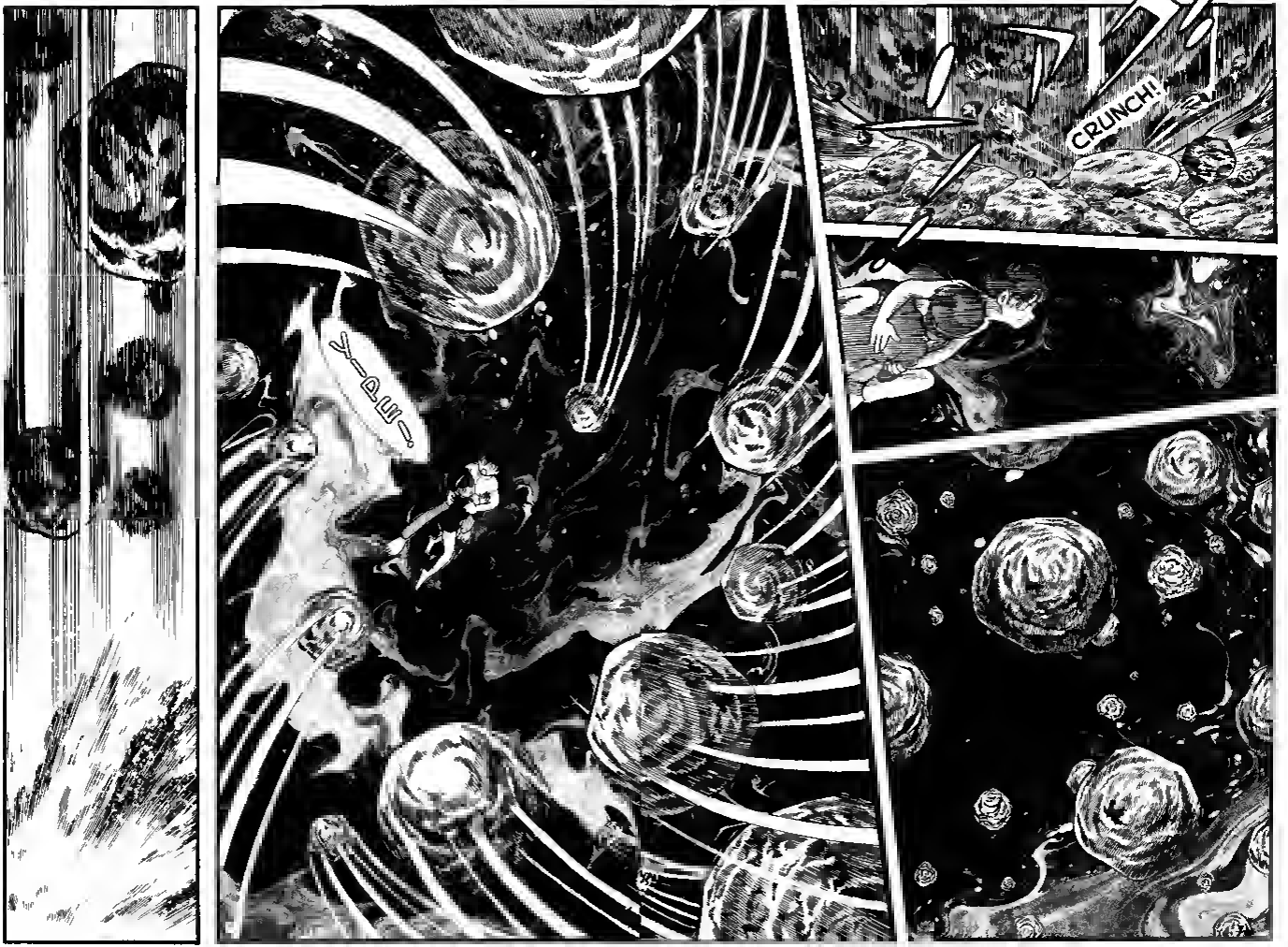
TRY YOUR LUCK WITH ME NOW, KAZETA!
BWA HA HA HA

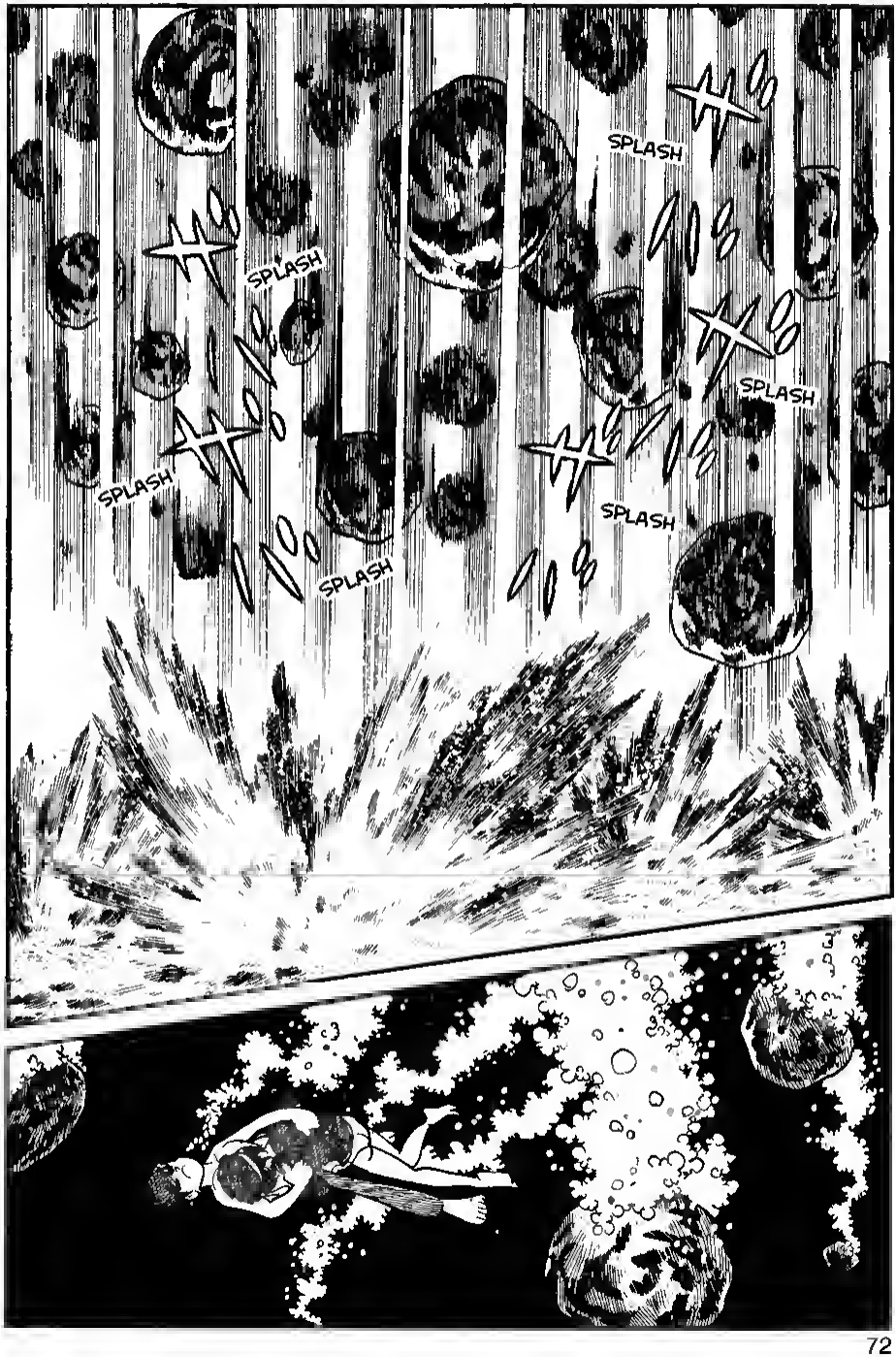
READY OR NOT, HERE I COME!


KRAAA!
WHUNCH
AH!
URGH
WHIZZZ
HUH?
KRAKKK
RUMBLE
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK

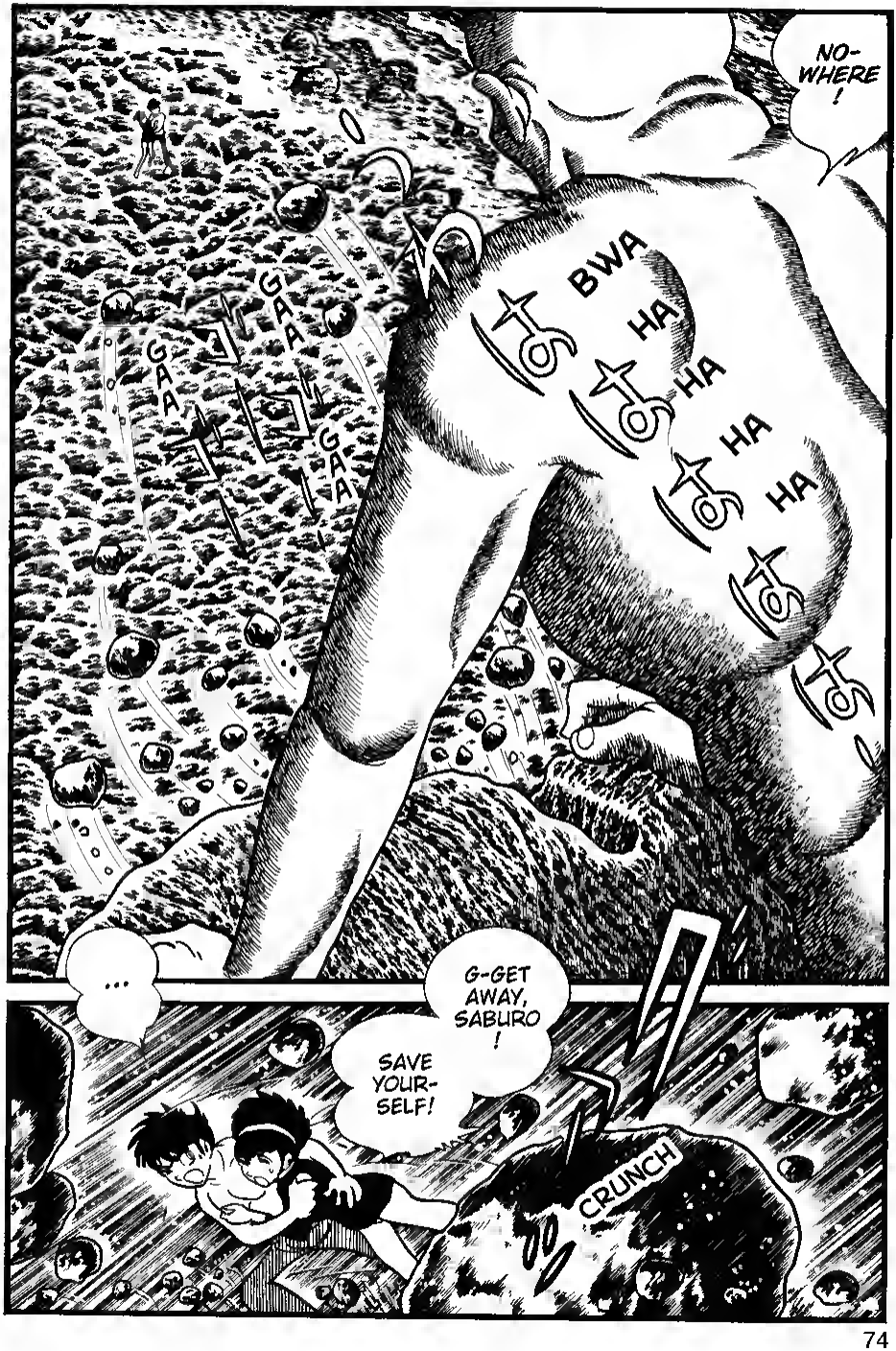

HEH HEH HEH
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
BROOO
THOOM
ULP!

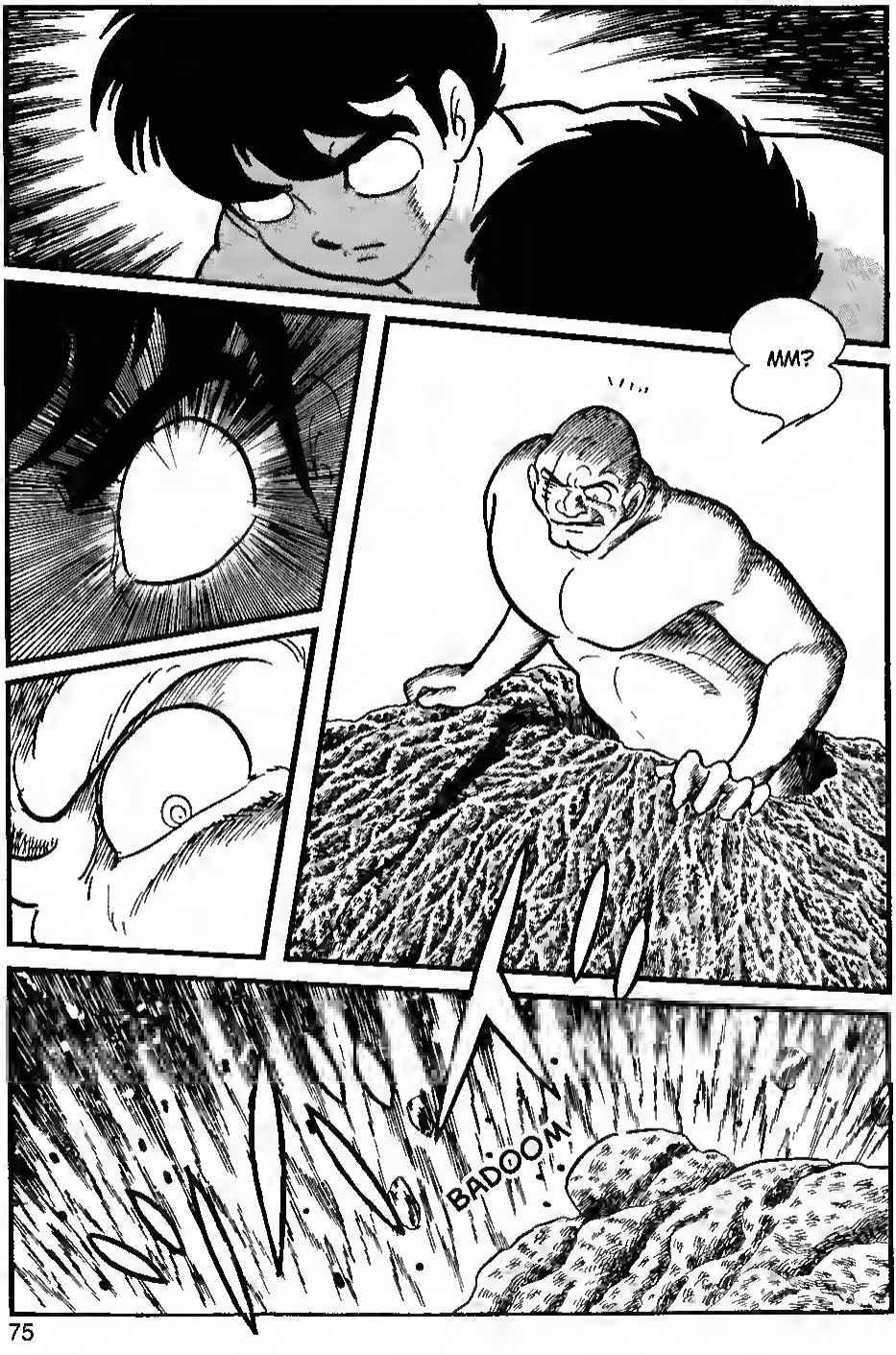

SST
-ンmmmm
SST


CRUNCH!


SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH

WE CAN'T ESCAPE ...
I-IT DIDN'T WORK! HE'S ABLE TO MAKE EVEN BOULDERS FOLLOW US INTO TELEPORTATIONAL SPACE!
PFFT
SPLASH
ZAAA
HEH HEH HEH! THAT'S RIGHT, KAZETA!
AS LONG AS YOU AND THAT GIRL ARE TOGETHER, THERE'S NOWHERE YOU CAN GO TO EVADE ME.
HA HA HA HA HA

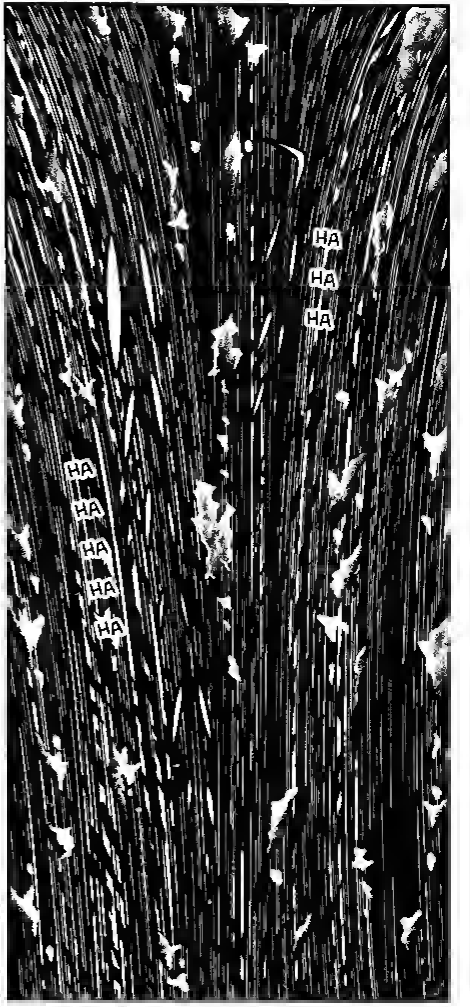

NO-WHERE!
BWA HA HA HA HA
GAAA
GAAA
GAAA
...
G-GET AWAY, SABURO!
SAVE YOUR-SELF!
CRUNCH

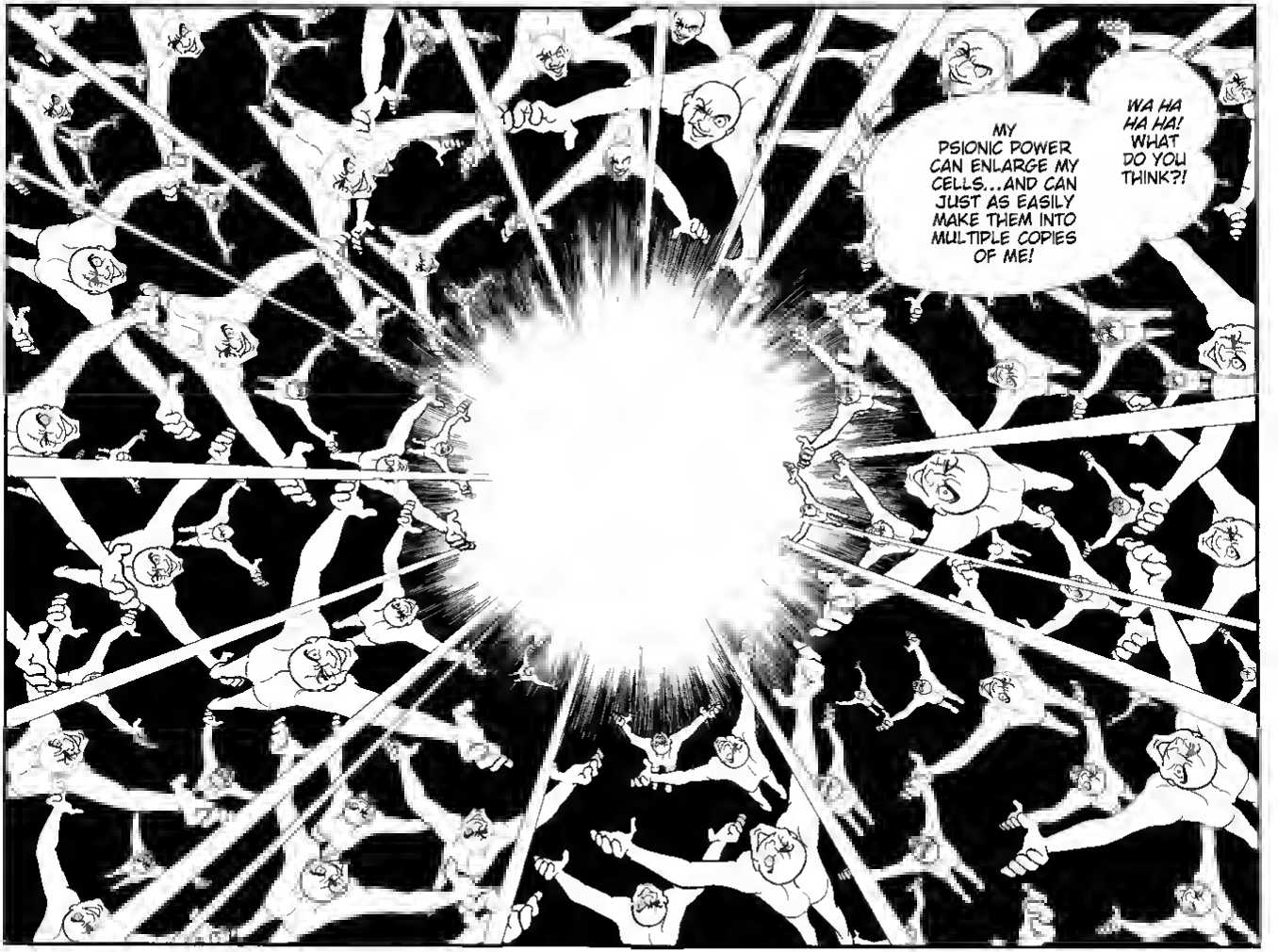

MM?
BADOOM

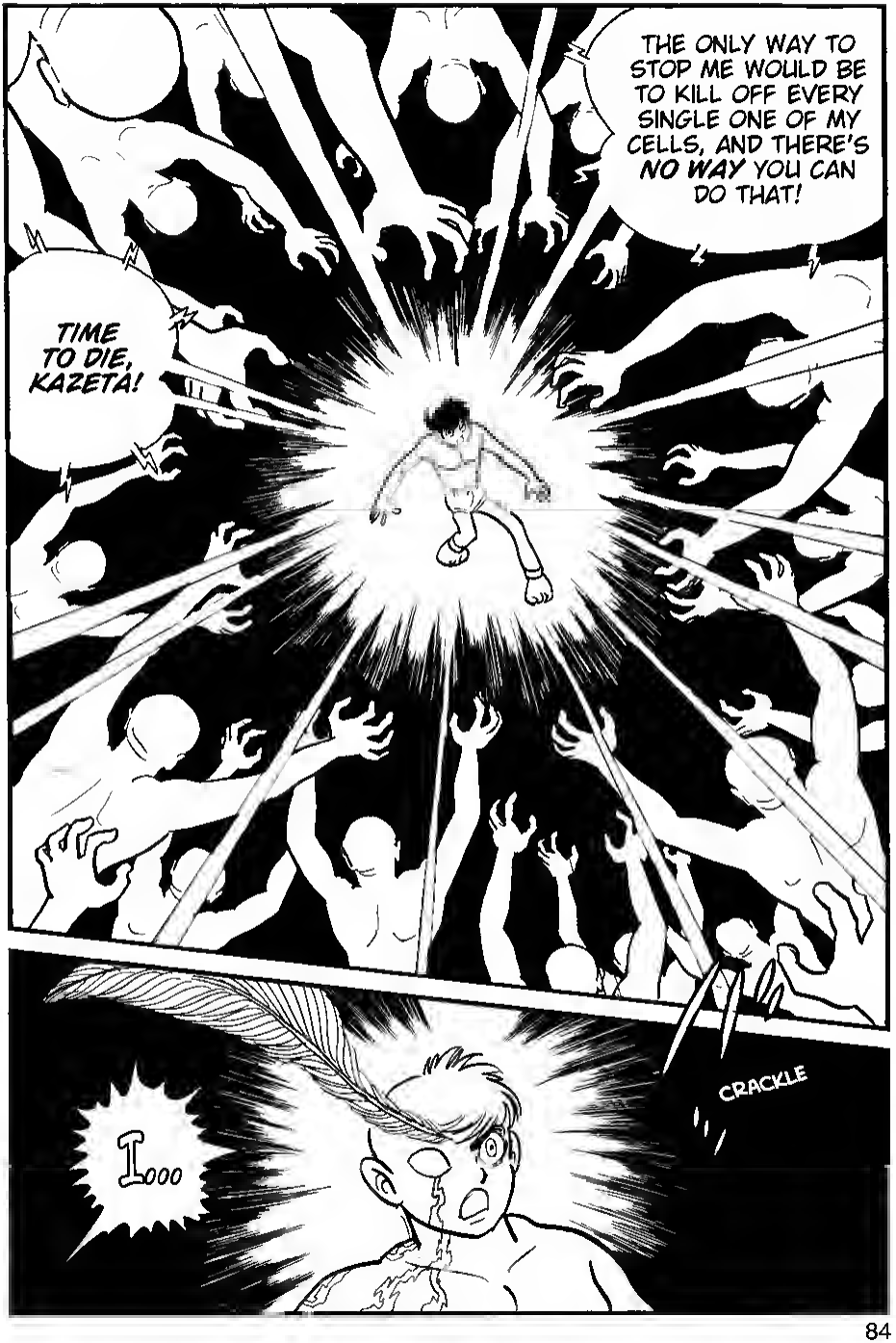
ARGH !!
WHOOM!

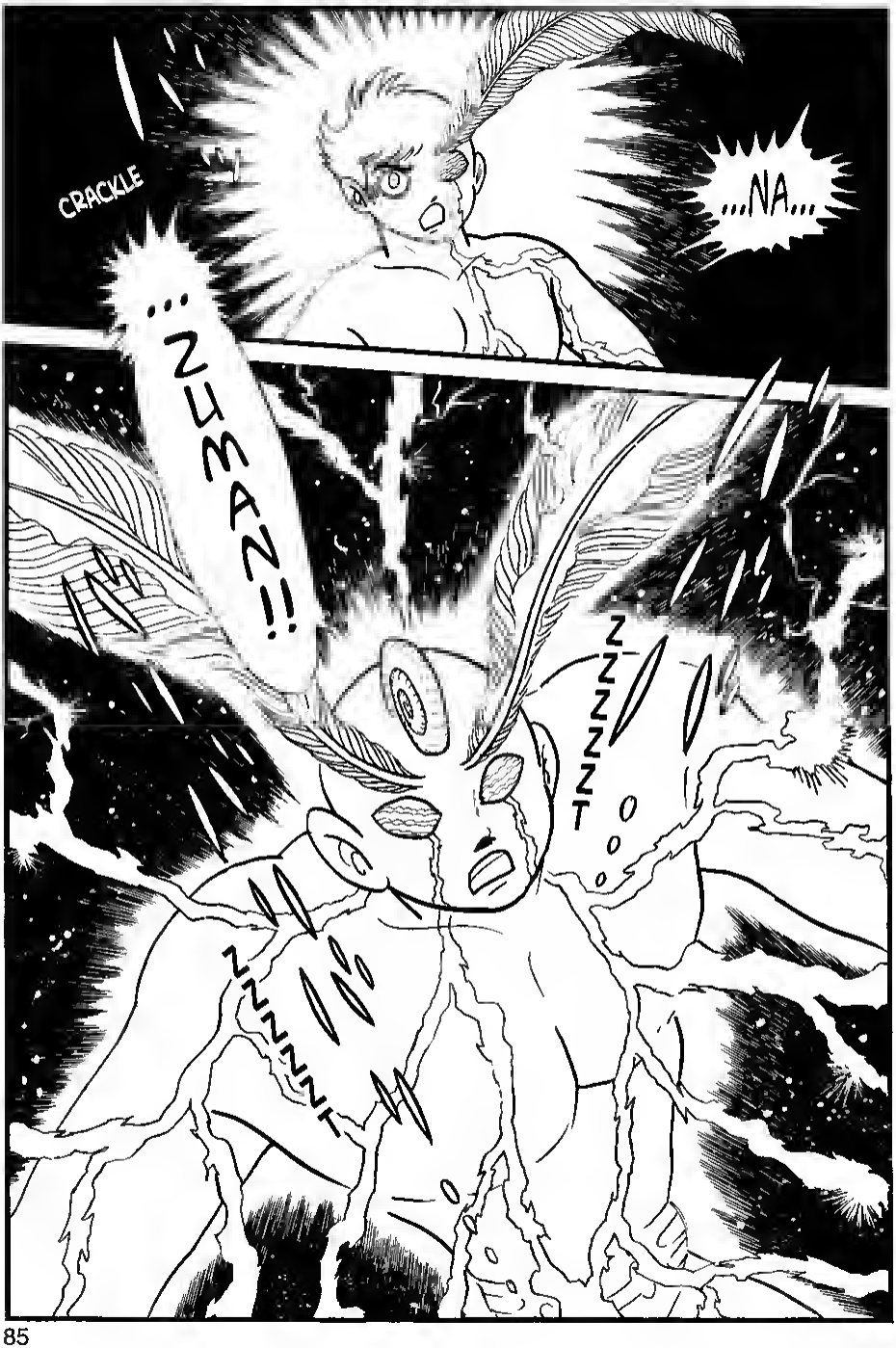
DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN KILL ME LIKE THIS?!
HA HA HA!
RRROAR

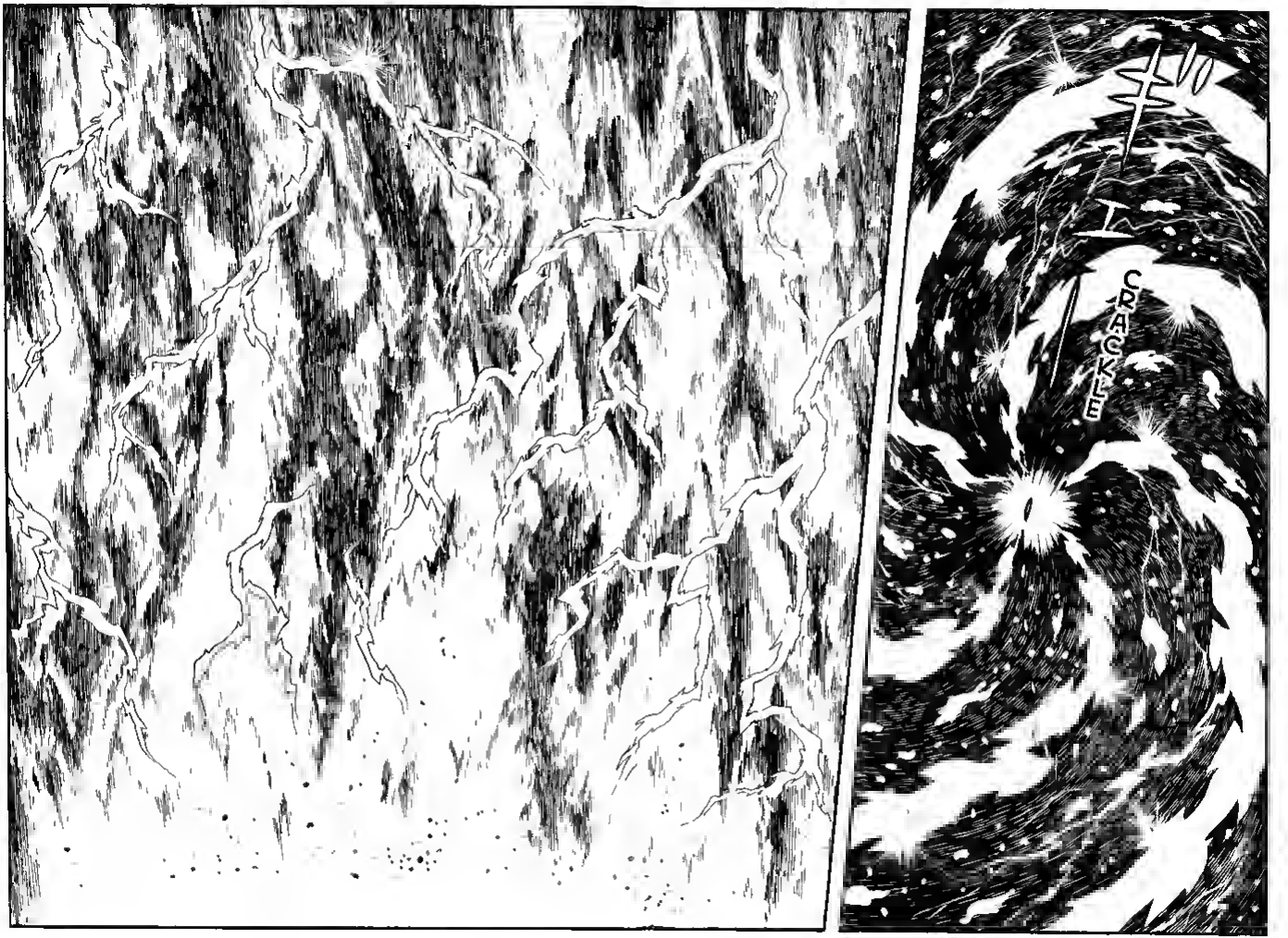
IT'S A WORD THAT COMES TO US FROM THE BIOMEDICAL FIELD, BUT FOR OUR PURPOSES, A CLONE IS A HUMAN THAT'S PRODUCED ARTIFICIALLY FROM THE CELLS OF ANOTHER HUMAN. IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S AN EXACT COPY OF A HUMAN.
This isn't really important to the story, but...
SLAP
...AND THAT'S "CLONE."
WE'VE GOT A WORD COMING UP THAT YOU MAY NOT BE FAMILIAR WITH...
PSIONIC CLONES!

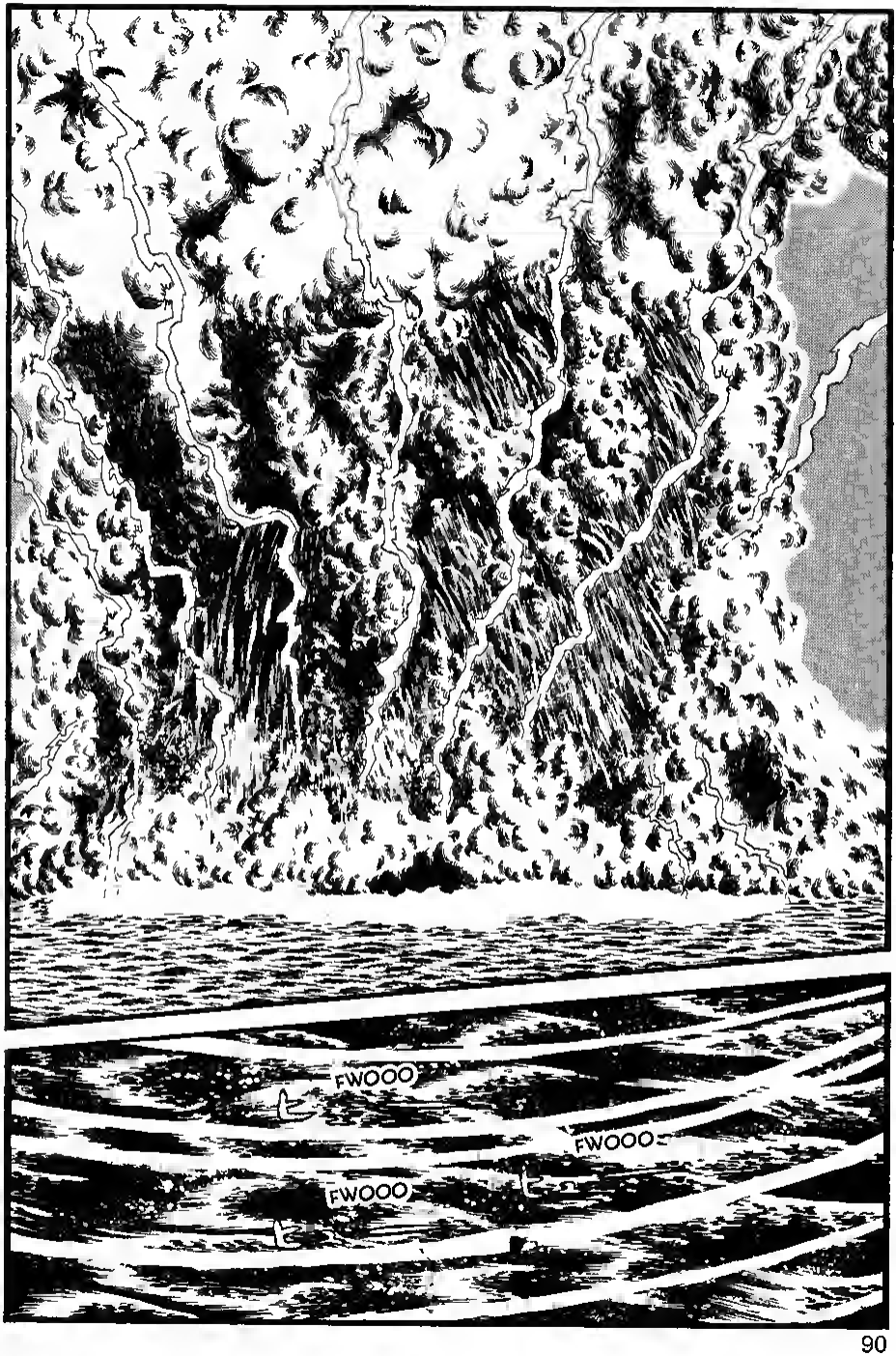

HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA

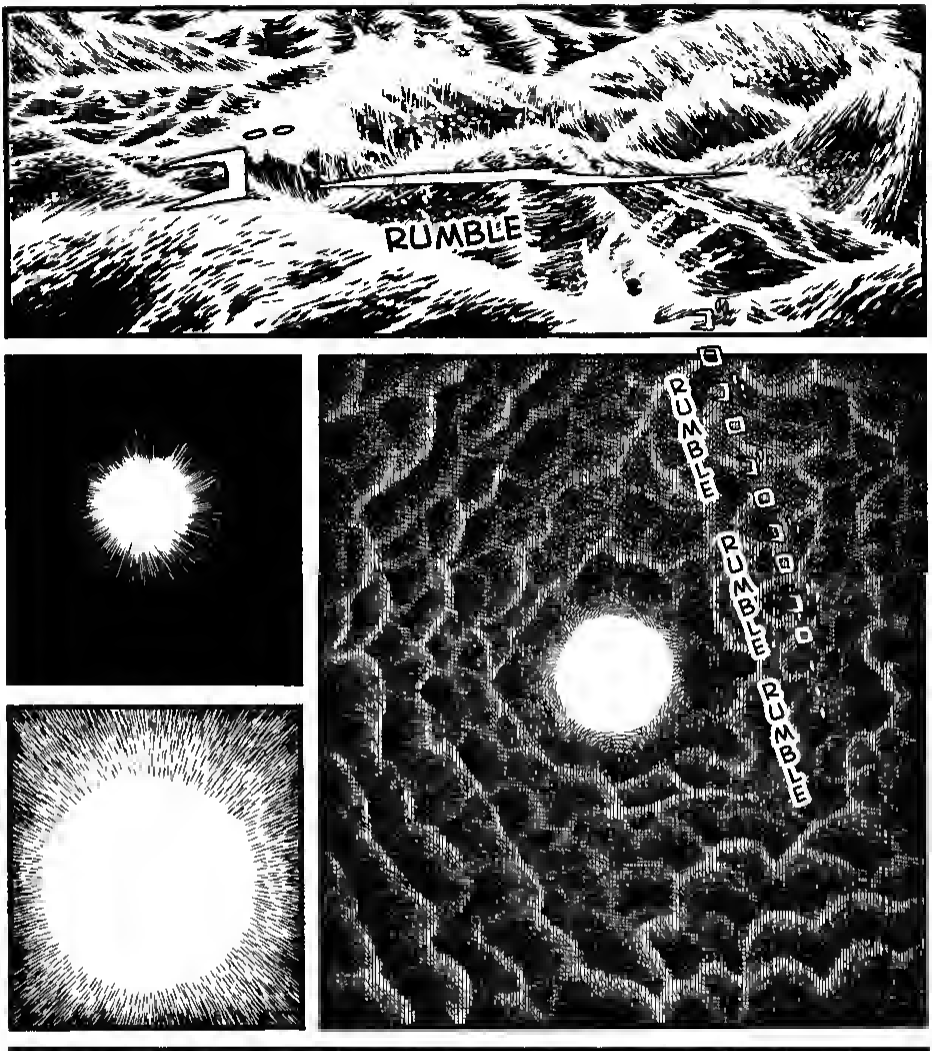

MY PSIONIC POWER CAN ENLARGE MY CELLS...AND CAN JUST AS EASILY MAKE THEM INTO MULTIPLE COPIES OF ME!
WA HA HA HA! WHAT DO YOU THINK?!

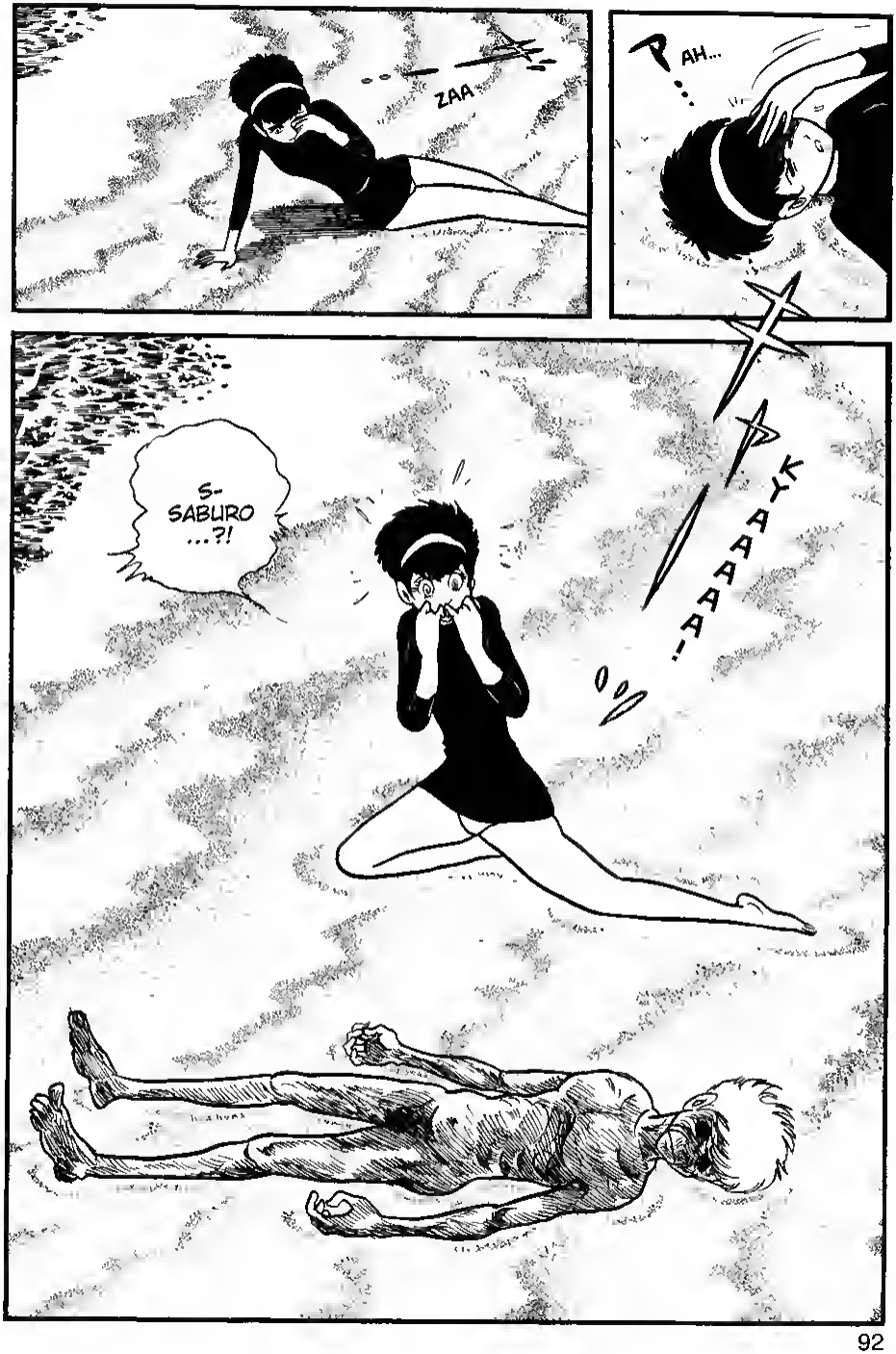

THE ONLY WAY TO STOP ME WOULD BE TO KILL OFF EVERY SINGLE ONE OF MY CELLS, AND THERE'S *NO WAY* YOU CAN DO THAT!
TIME TO DIE, KAZETA!
CRACKLE
Iooo

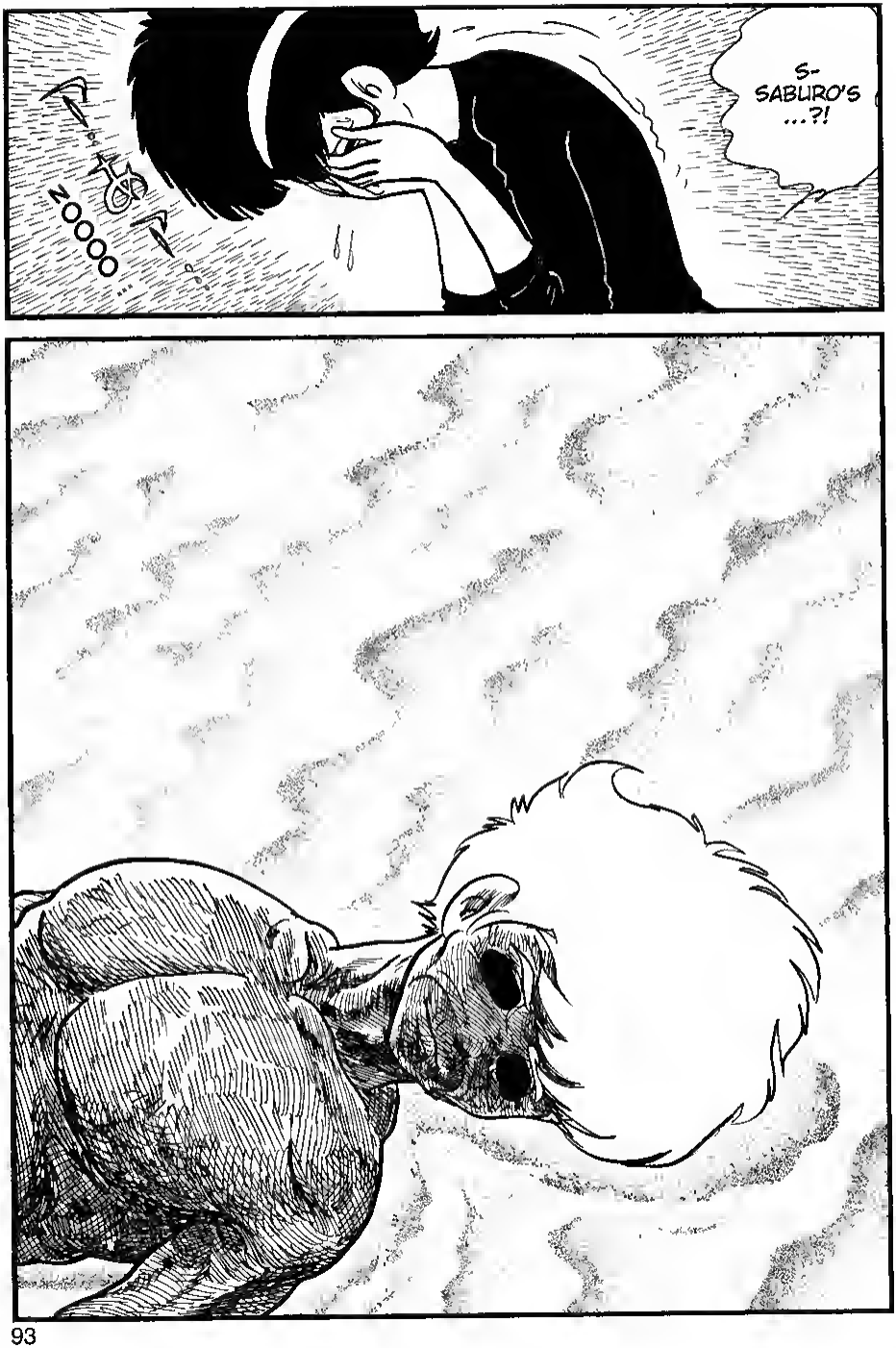

CRACKLE
...NA...
...NUMAN!!
ZZZZZZT
ZZZZZZT

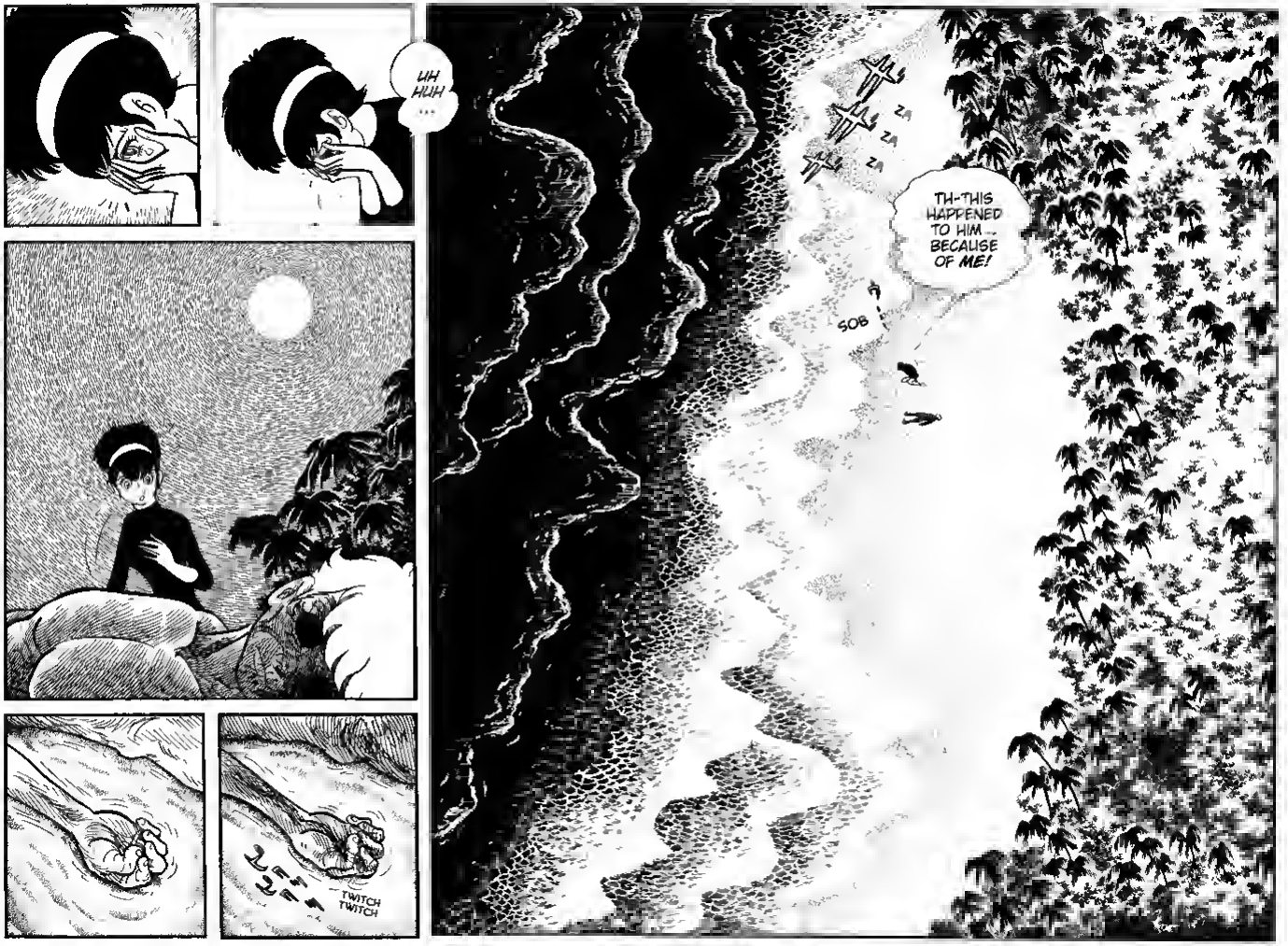

CRACKLE


FWOOO
FWOOO
FWOOO


RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

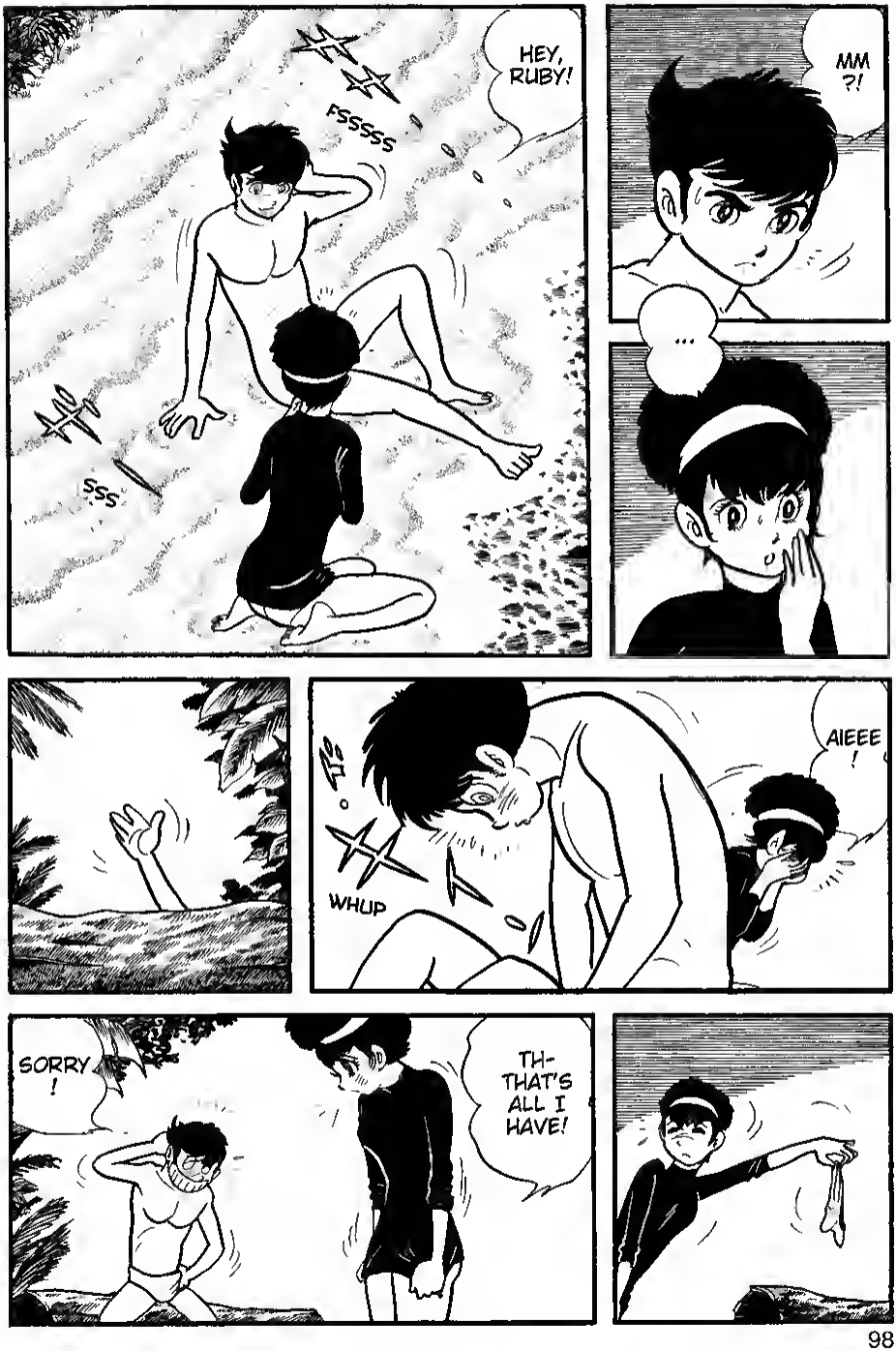

ZAA
AH...
S-SABURO ...?!
KYAAAAA!


S-
SABURO'S
...?!
ZOOOO...


UH HUH ...
ZA
ZA
ZA
TH-THIS HAPPENED TO HIM... BECAUSE OF ME!
SOB
TWITCH TWITCH

AH...THE WRINKLES ARE DISAP-PEARING!
SABURO'S BODY IS GOING BACK TO NORMAL!
HIS HAIR'S BLACK AGAIN TOO!
SABURO!
ドドドド

KRIK
KRIK
KRIK
CHIK
?!
S-
SABURO
...?!
NNN...!
GROAN
UNH
...


HEY, RUBY!
FSSSSS
SSS
MM ?!
...
AIEEE !
WHUP
SORRY !
TH- THAT'S ALL I HAVE!

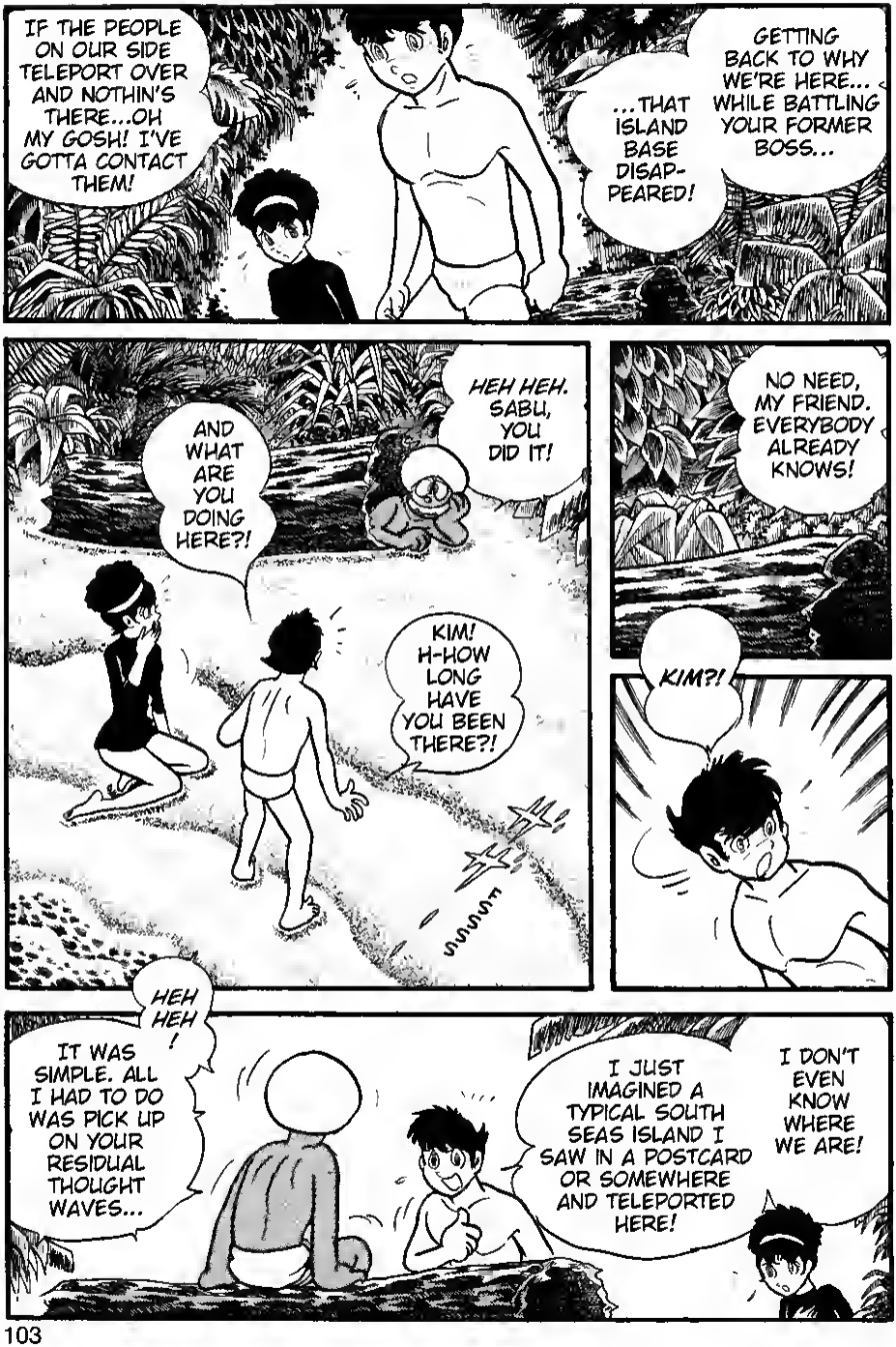
DDDN
I MUST'VE HAD THE OLD-MAN FORM...
...BECAUSE I USED UP ALL MY ENERGY.
I SEE. SO I TRANSFORMED FROM A SHRIVELED-UP OLD MAN ...
...TO A MONSTER!
I WAS TERRI-FIED!
DDDN
INAZUMAN?!
WHEN MY PSIONIC POWERS WERE FIRST BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION BY THIS FRENCH GIRL, LEONA...
I CALL THE OTHER MONSTER FORMS I TURN INTO "SANAGIMAN"* AND "INAZUMAN"*!

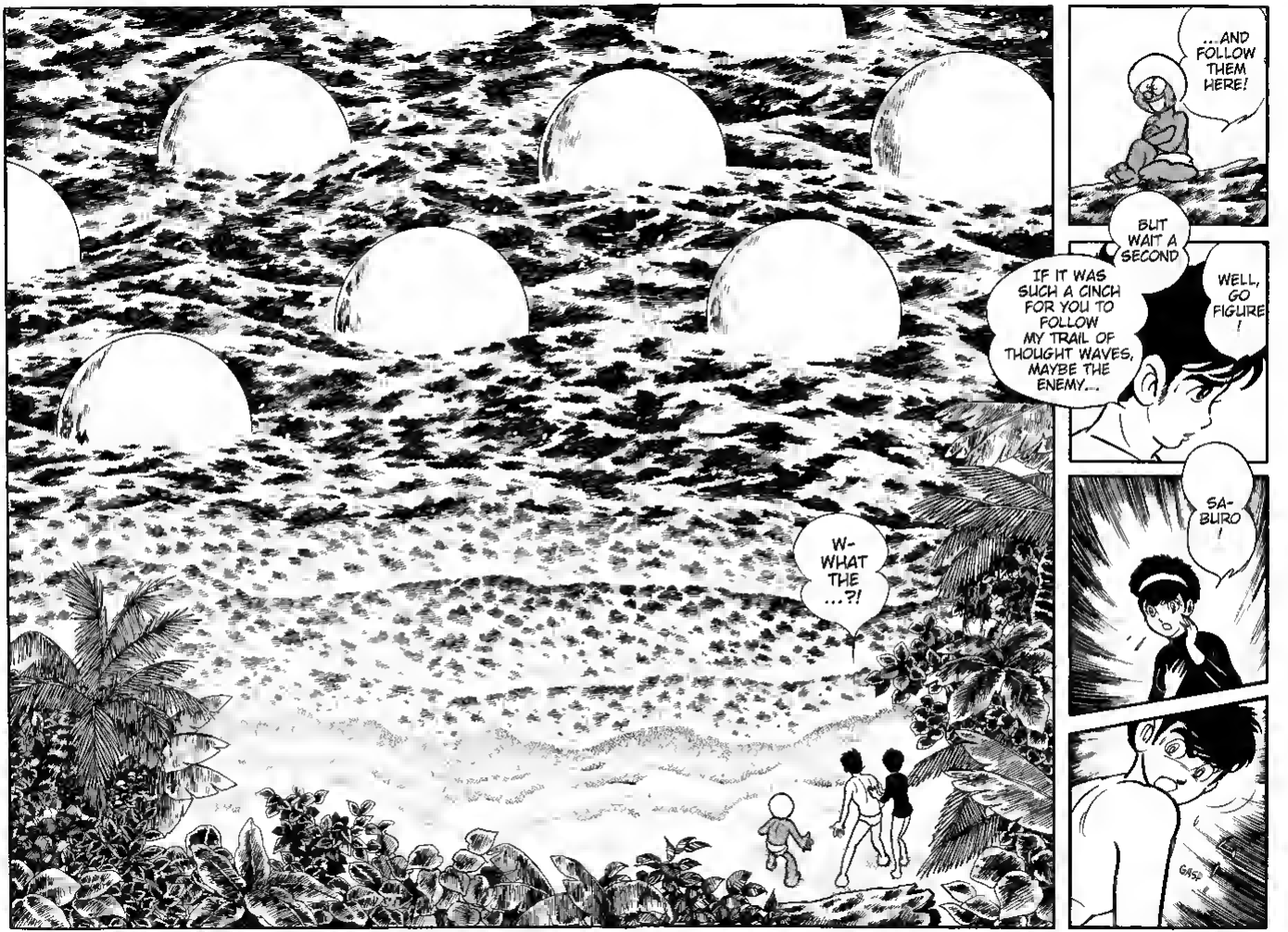
* LITERALLY "CHRYSALIS MAN" AND "LIGHTNING MAN," RESPECTIVELY

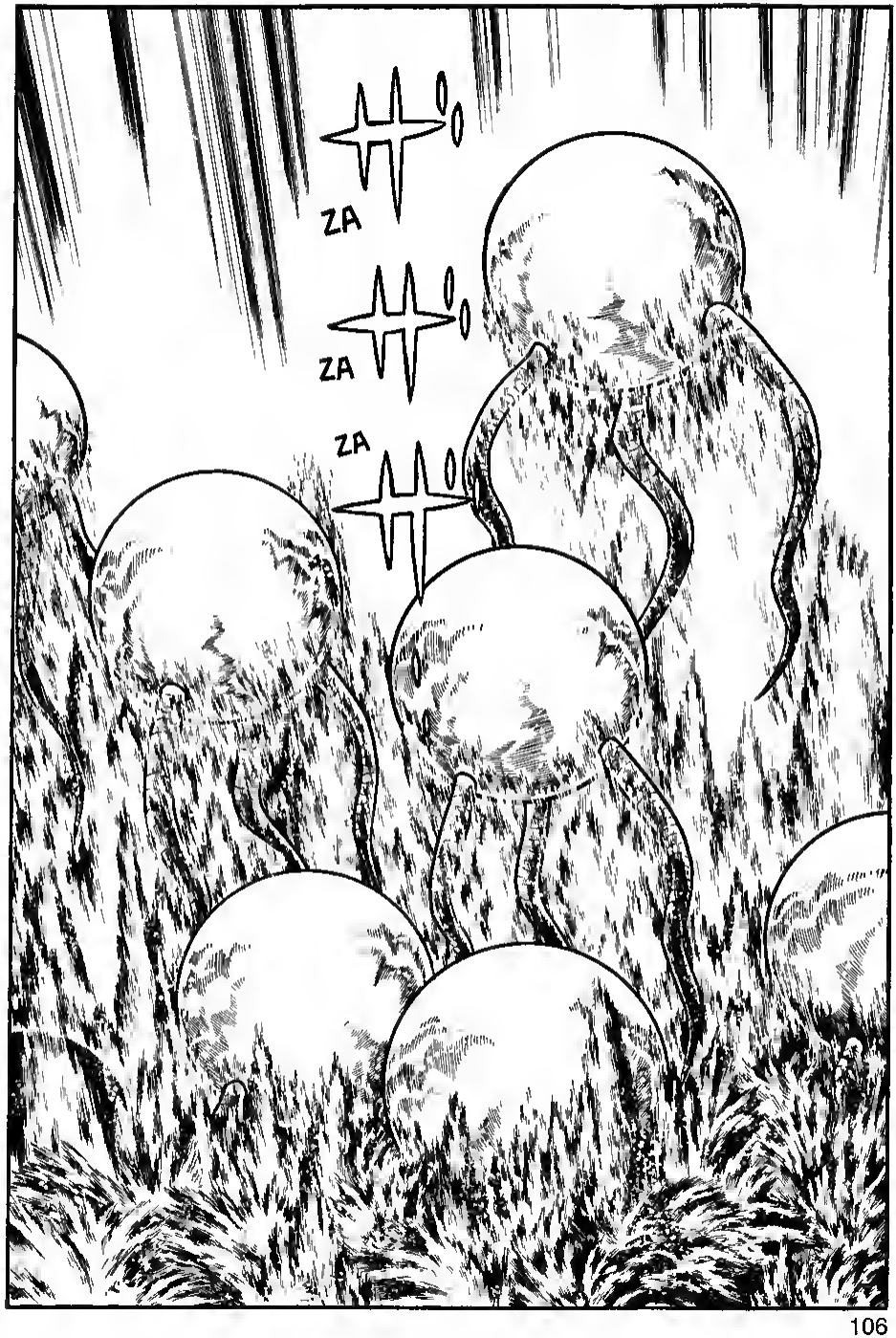
SO NOW, WHEN I FIGHT, THAT'S THE FORM I TURN INTO!
AND SOMEHOW, HER SUGGESTION AND THE IMAGE OVERLAPPED AND GOT BURNED INTO MY SUBCONSCIOUS.
AS IT HAPPENED, THAT VERY SAME DAY IN BIOLOGY CLASS, I SAW A PHOTO OF A BUTTERFLY IN MY TEXTBOOK.
SHE TOLD ME I COULD TRANSFORM LIKE A BUTTERFLY.
THAT'S SOME STORY!
HE CAME UP WITH ONE FRIGHTENING PLAN AFTER ANOTHER... BUT NOW THAT'S HE'S GONE, I DON'T KNOW WHAT'LL HAPPEN.
I WONDER IF HE'S DEAD.
AND SPEAKING OF FIGHTING, THAT GENERAL GUY WAS THE TOUGHEST OPPONENT I'VE COME UP AGAINST YET.
I LIVED IN AN ORPHANAGE BUT GOT OUT AS SOON AS I COULD, ONLY TO GO ASTRAY. I WAS A NO-GOOD PUNK LIVING ON THE STREETS WHEN HE FOUND ME AND TOOK ME IN.
AS YOU CAN TELL, I'M ONLY HALF-JAPANESE, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHO MY PARENTS WERE.
THE GENERAL RAISED ME FOR A WHILE.

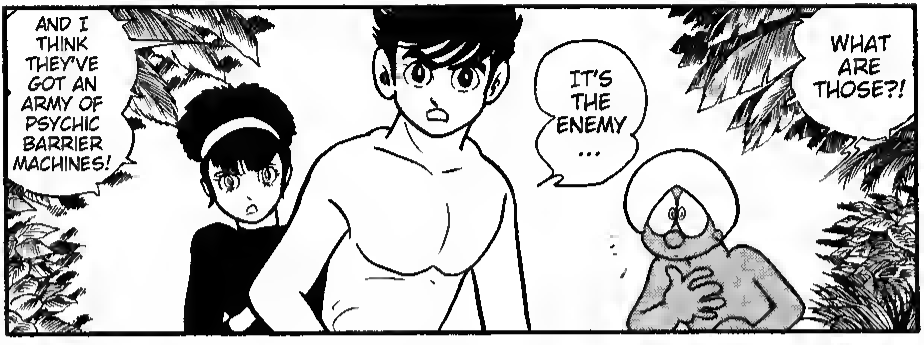
AFTER ALL, HE JUST TRIED TO MURDER ME!
THAT AWFUL MAN WAS NO PARENT OF MINE!
NO, IT DOESN'T!
THEN THAT MAKES ME THE MURDERER OF YOUR ADOPTIVE FATHER.
...EVEN THOUGH I'M THE GIRL WHO KILLED YOUR PARENTS!
I'M TRULY MOVED BY WHAT YOU DID...
AND HE WOULD'VE SUCCEEDED TOO, IF YOU HADN'T SAVED MY LIFE, SABURO.
DON'T REMIND ME OF THAT! I-I WAS JUST TRYING TO FORGET IT!!
IDIOT!
I-I'M SORRY... I'M SO SORRY...
...
GASP

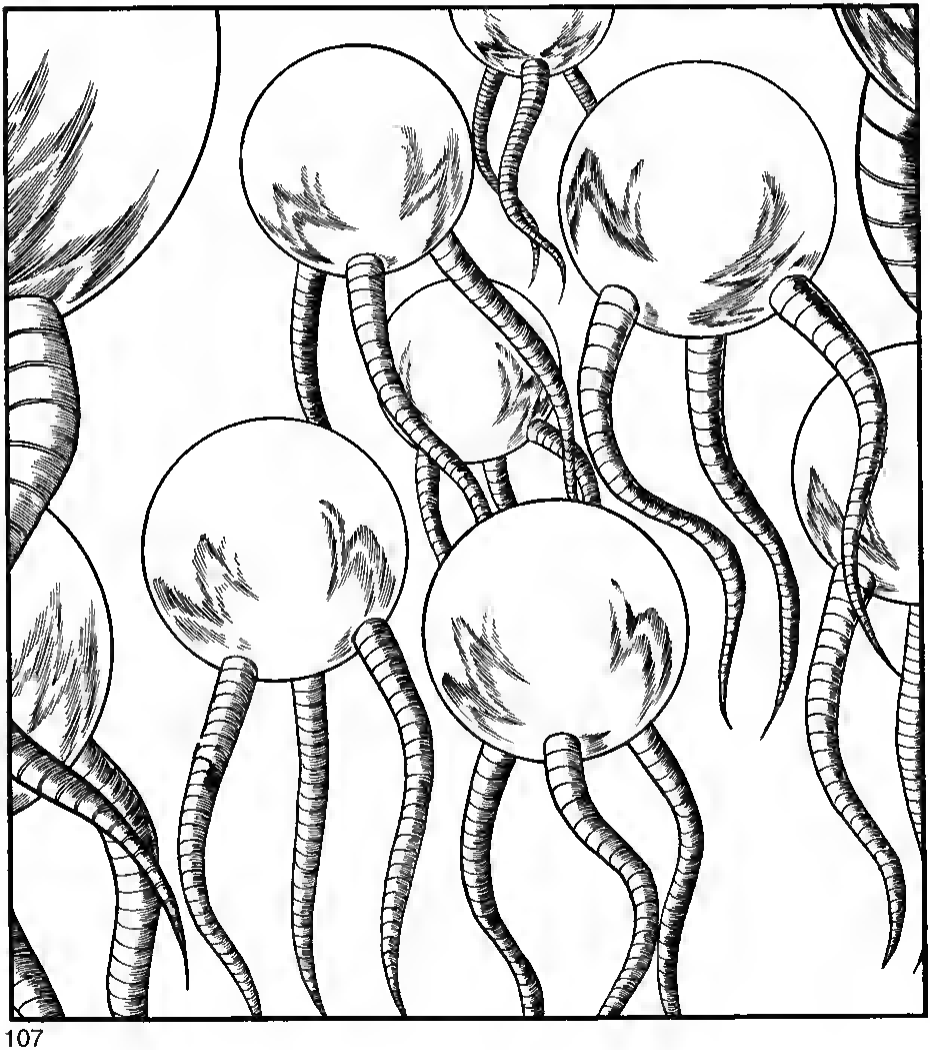
I-IT WOULD'VE BEEN BETTER IF I HAD DIED!!
RUBY, YOU'RE WITH US NOW.
WE EVEN SHARE THE SAME UNDER-WEAR!
DON'T CRY ANY MORE. LOOK, IT'S MY BAD. I SHOULDN'T HAVE YELLED AT YOU... OKAY?
H-HEY, CUT IT OUT!
B-BESIDES, IF YOU'RE NOT CARE-FUL, I'M GONNA SEE EVERY-THING!
YOU'RE GONNA GET ME EXCITED IF YOU HUG ME LIKE THAT!
SOB
SOB
WAAAAA
HEH HEH ...

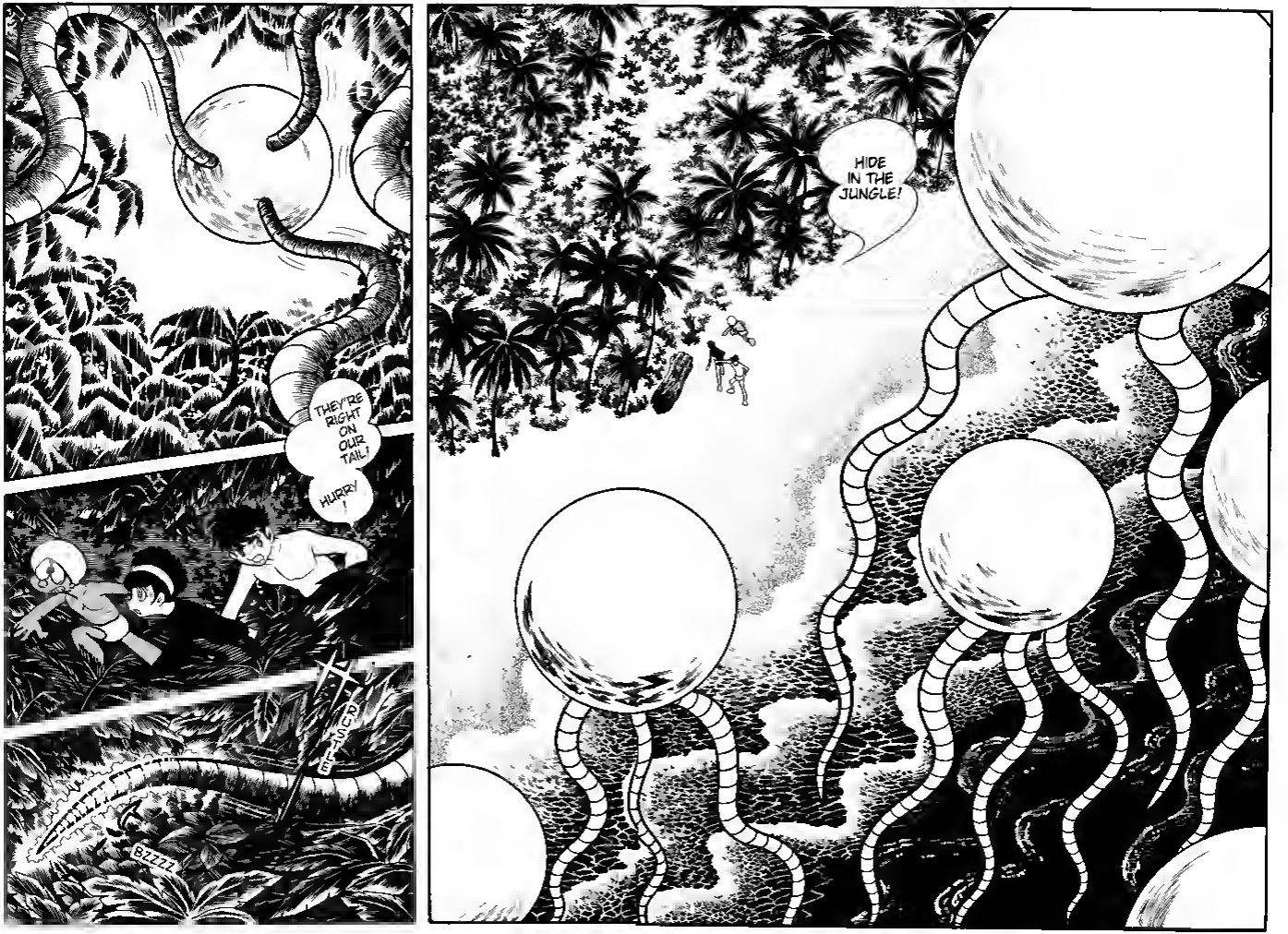

IF THE PEOPLE ON OUR SIDE TELEPORT OVER AND NOTHIN'S THERE...OH MY GOSH! I'VE GOTTA CONTACT THEM!
...THAT ISLAND BASE DISAP-PEARED!
GETTING BACK TO WHY WE'RE HERE... WHILE BATTLING YOUR FORMER BOSS...
HEH HEH. SABU, YOU DID IT!
AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
KIM! H-HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN THERE?!
NO NEED, MY FRIEND. EVERYBODY ALREADY KNOWS!
KIM?!
HEH HEH!
IT WAS SIMPLE. ALL I HAD TO DO WAS PICK UP ON YOUR RESIDUAL THOUGHT WAVES...
I JUST IMAGINED A TYPICAL SOUTH SEAS ISLAND I SAW IN A POSTCARD OR SOMEWHERE AND TELEPORTED HERE!
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE WE ARE!


W-WHAT THE ...?!
...AND FOLLOW THEM HERE!
BUT WAIT A SECOND
IF IT WAS SUCH A CINCH FOR YOU TO FOLLOW MY TRAIL OF THOUGHT WAVES, MAYBE THE ENEMY...
WELL, GO FIGURE!
SA-BURO!
GASP!

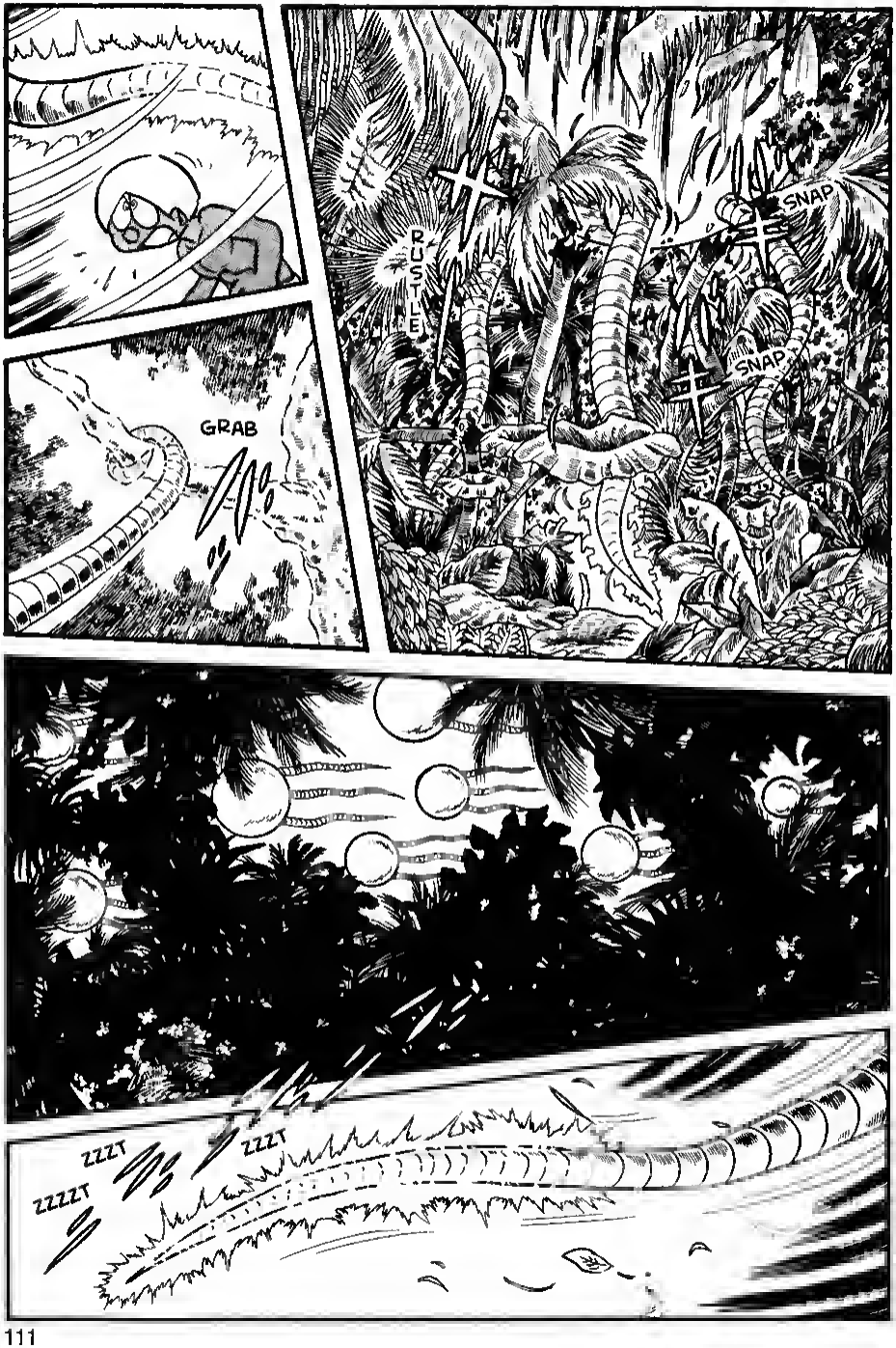

ZA
ZA
ZA


AND I THINK THEY'VE GOT AN ARMY OF PSYCHIC BARRIER MACHINES!
IT'S THE ENEMY ...
WHAT ARE THOSE?!



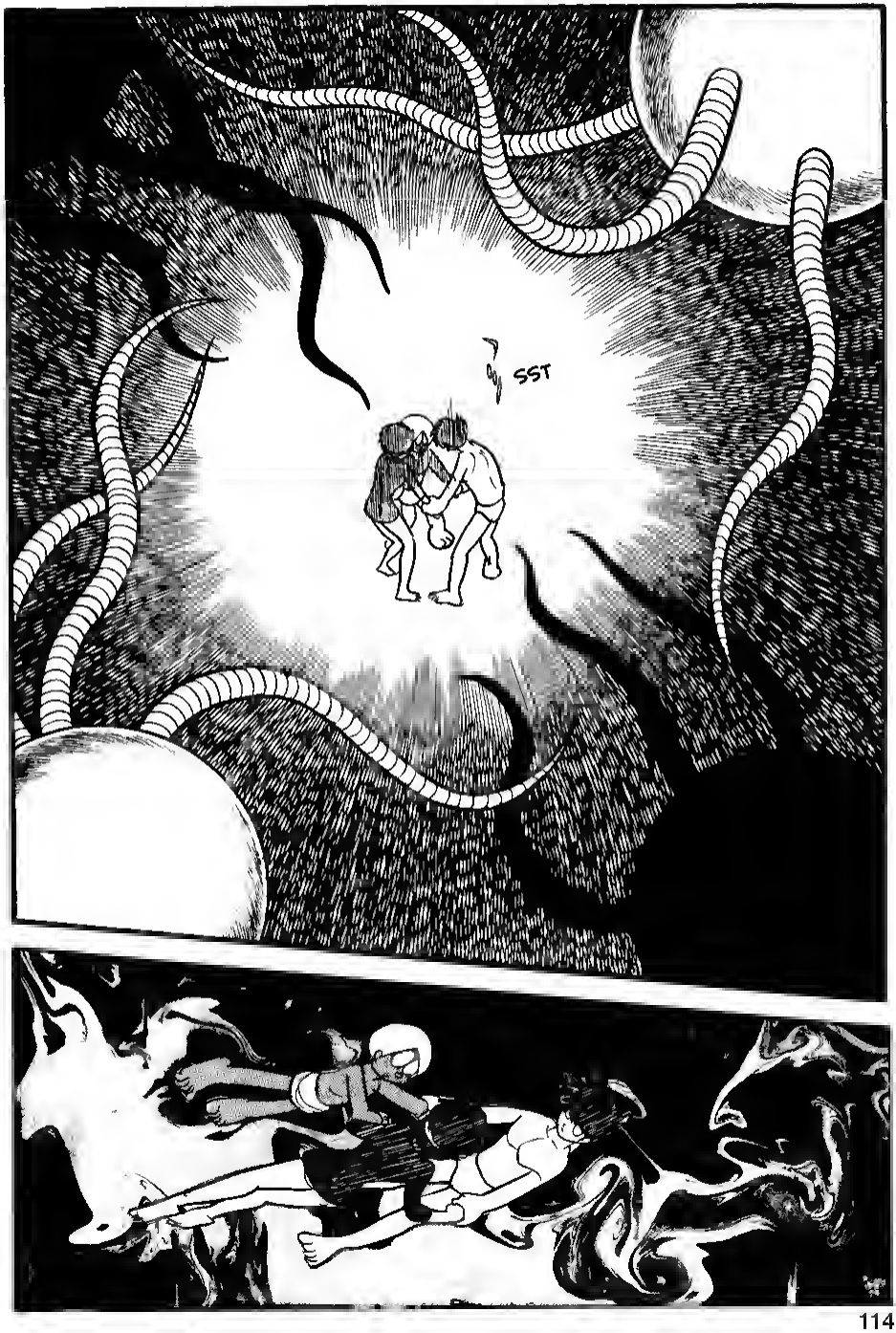

THEY'RE RIGHT ON OUR TAIL!
HURRY!
BEZZZT
HIDE IN THE JUNGLE!

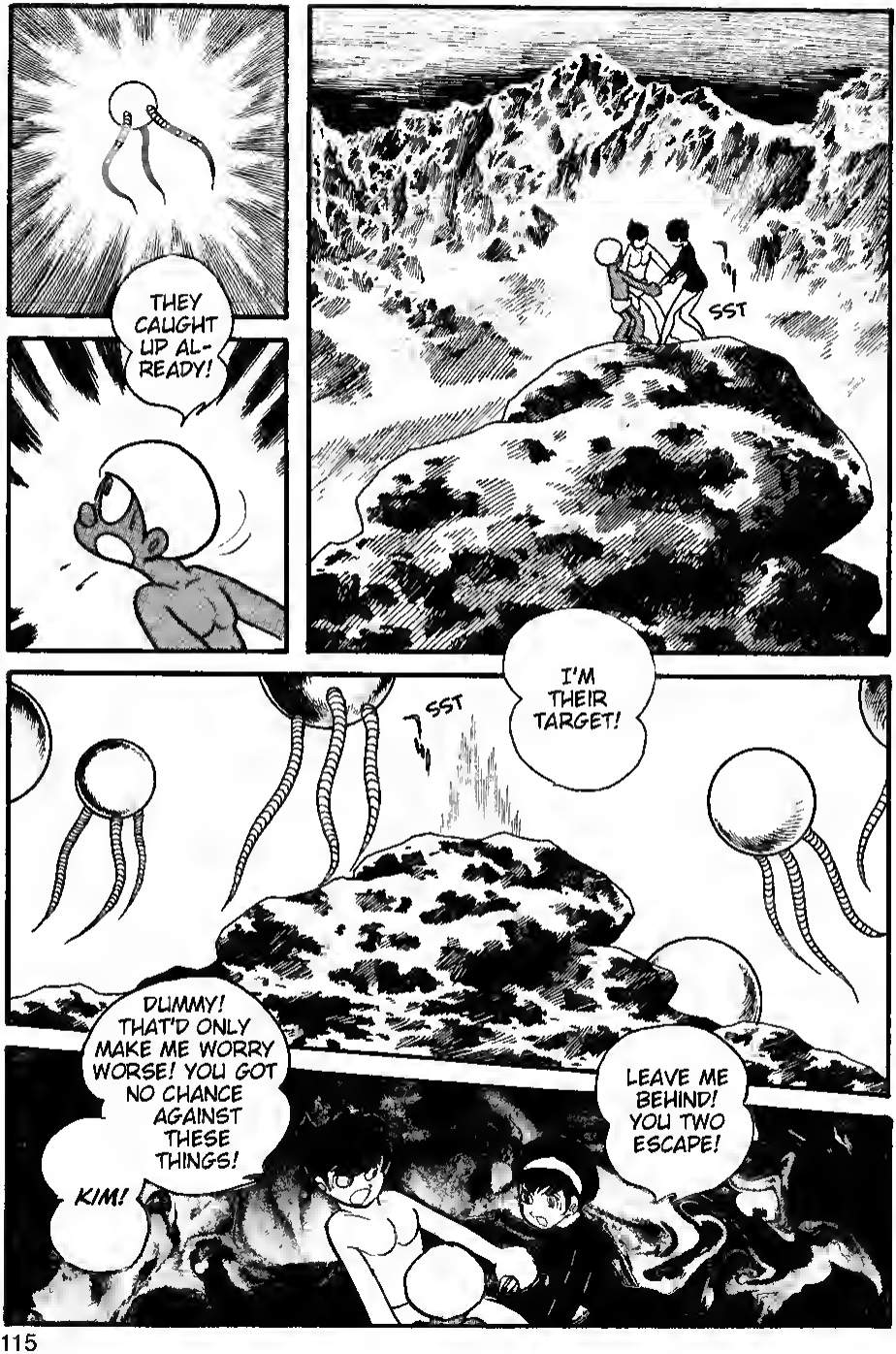
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
ZZZT
ZZZT

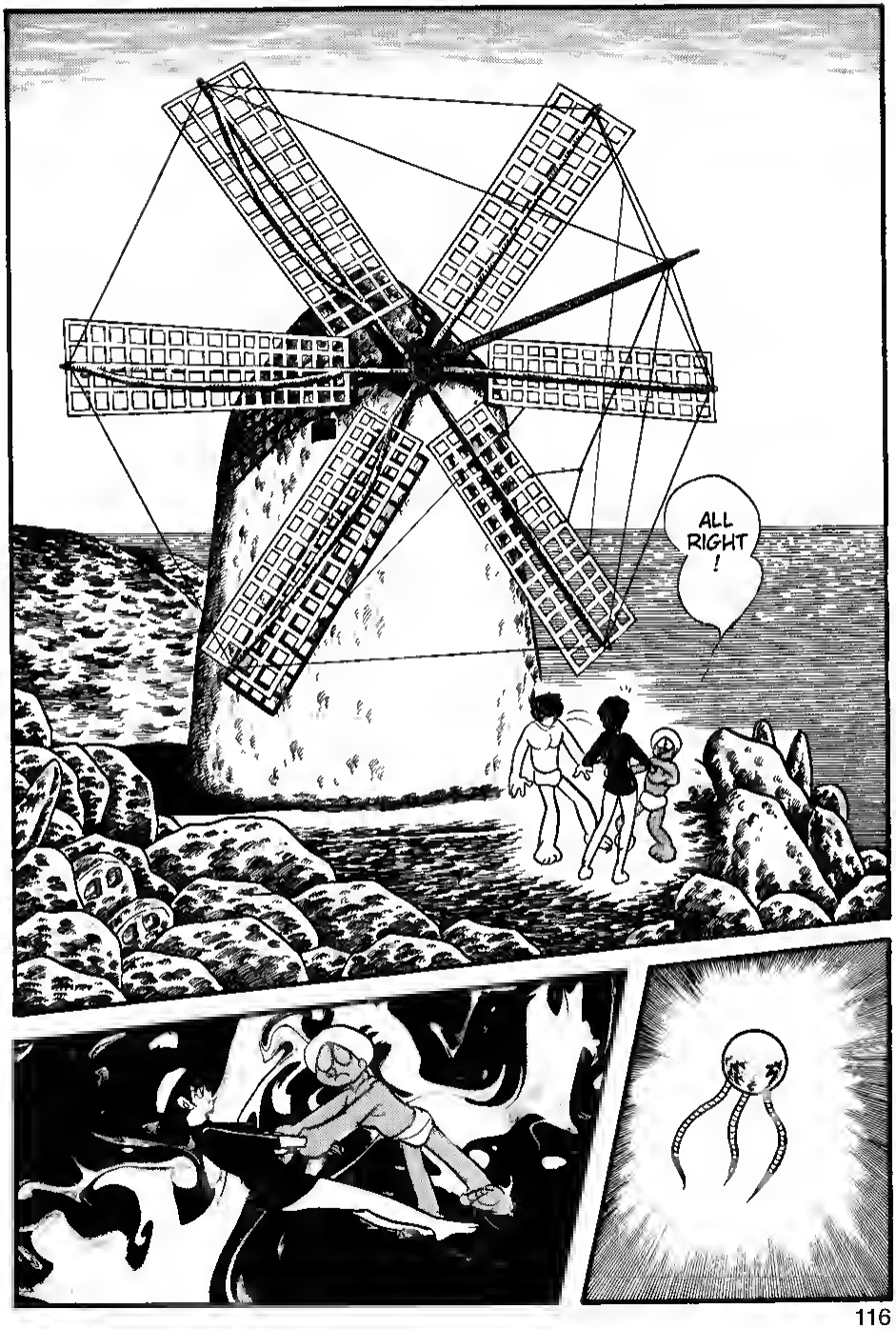

GRAB
RUSTLE
SNAP
SNAP
ZZZT
ZZZZT
ZZZT

CRACKLE
CRACKLE
ROARRRRRR

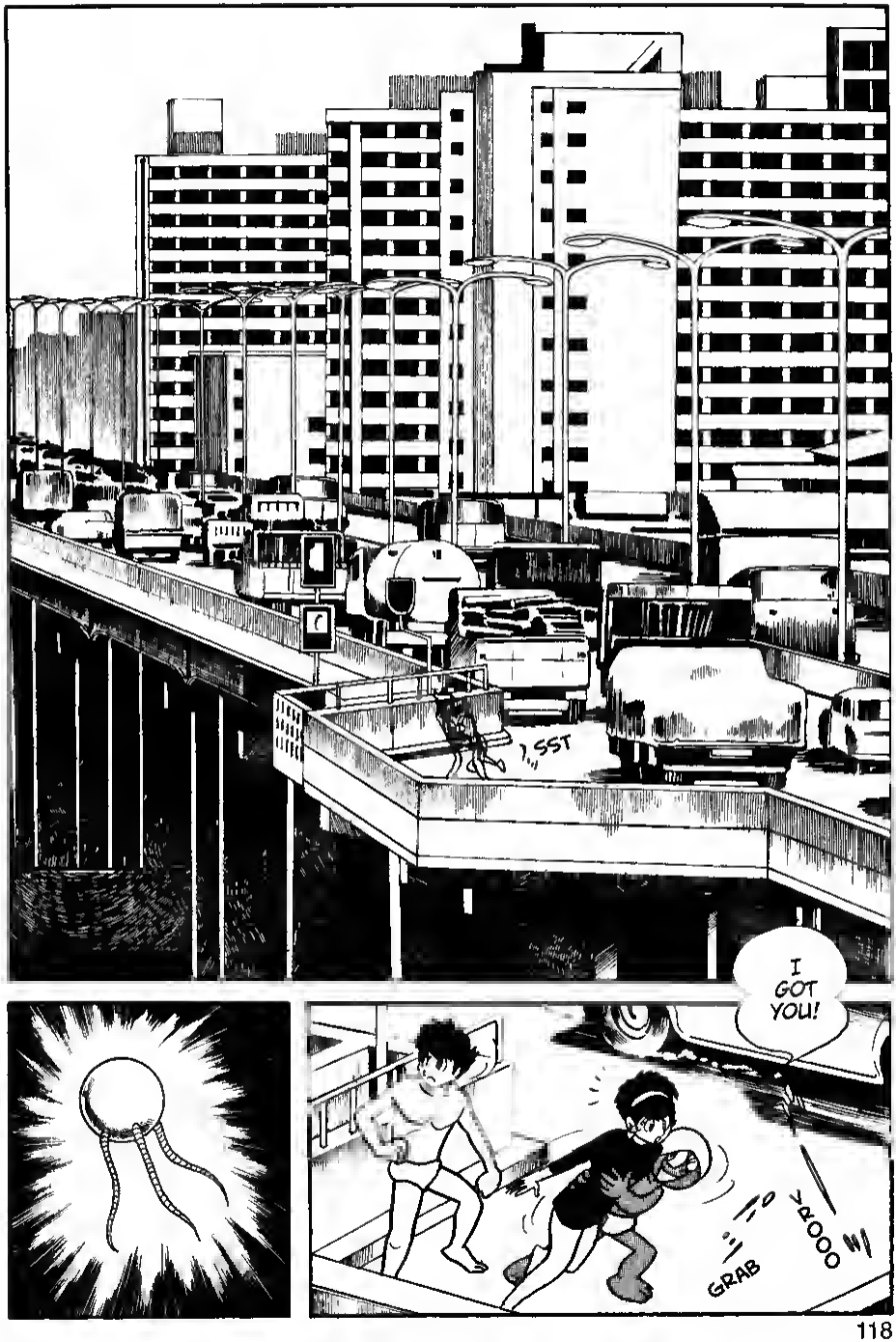
TWITCH
TWITCH
AT THIS RATE, WE'RE GONNA RUN OUT OF PLACES TO HIDE!
FZZT
FZZT
HOLD HANDS!
I'M GONNA TELEPORT US!


SST

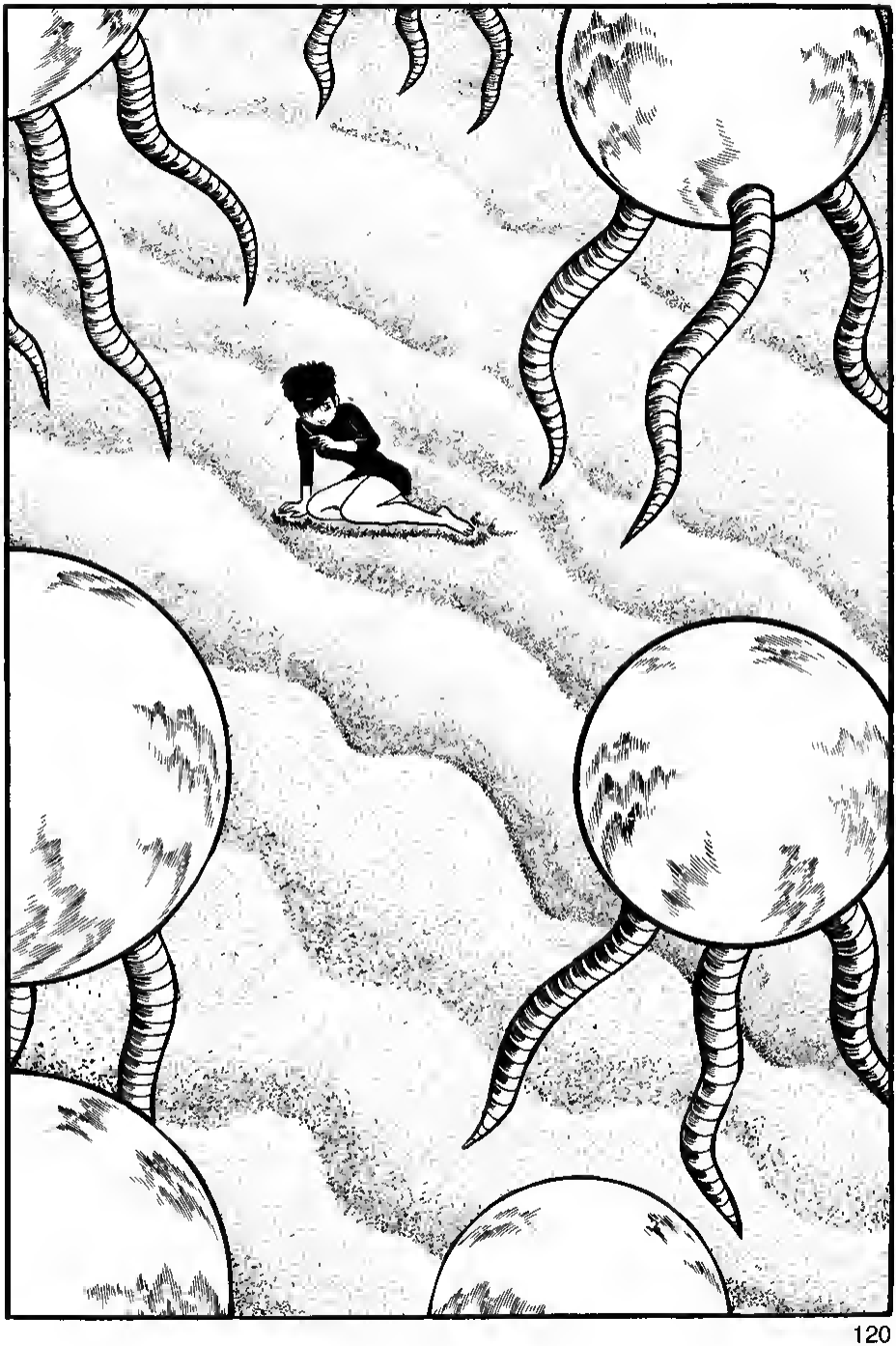

THEY CAUGHT UP AL-READY!
SST
SST
I'M THEIR TARGET!
DUMMY! THAT'D ONLY MAKE ME WORRY WORSE! YOU GOT NO CHANCE AGAINST THESE THINGS!
KIM!
LEAVE ME BEHIND! YOU TWO ESCAPE!

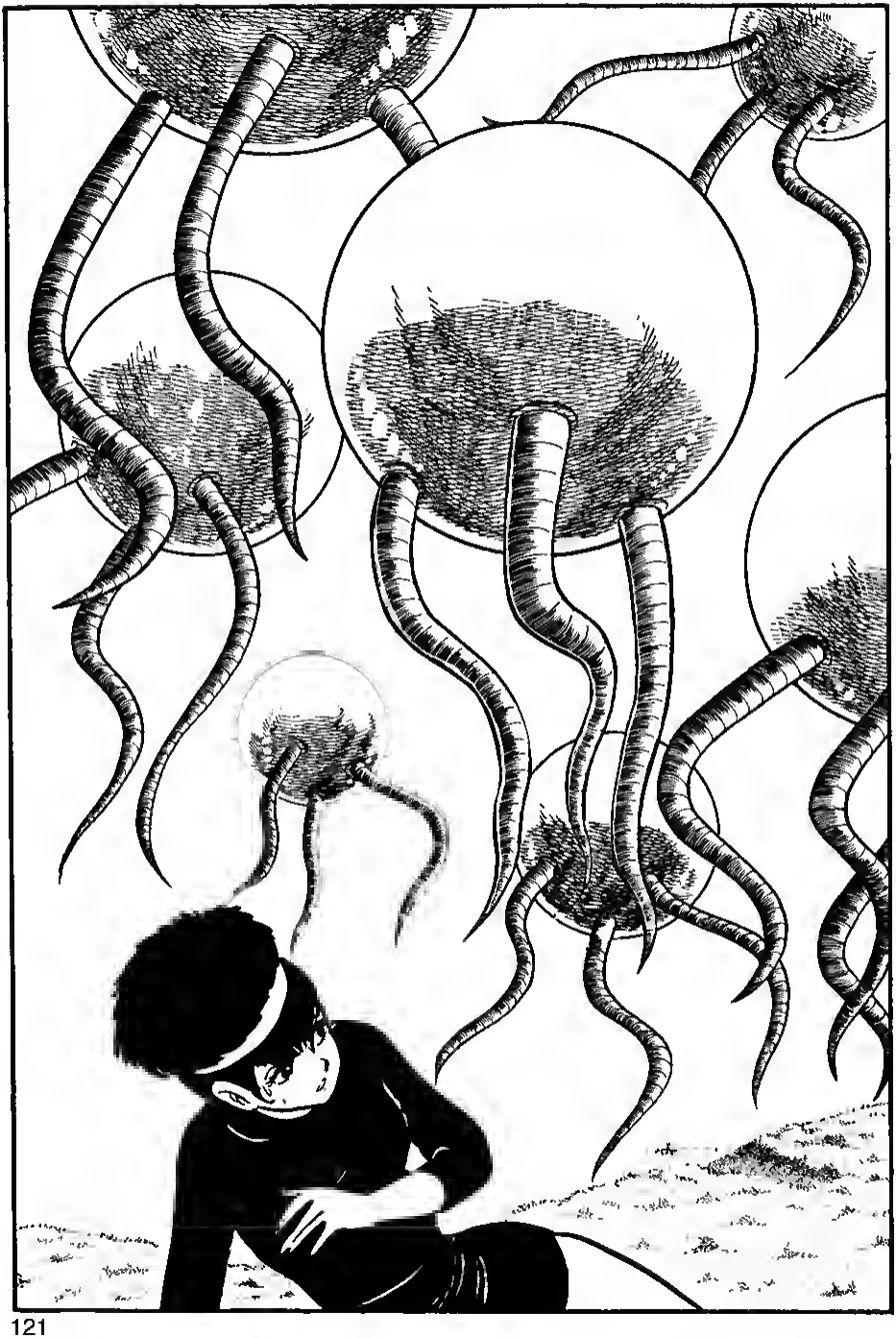

ALL RIGHT !

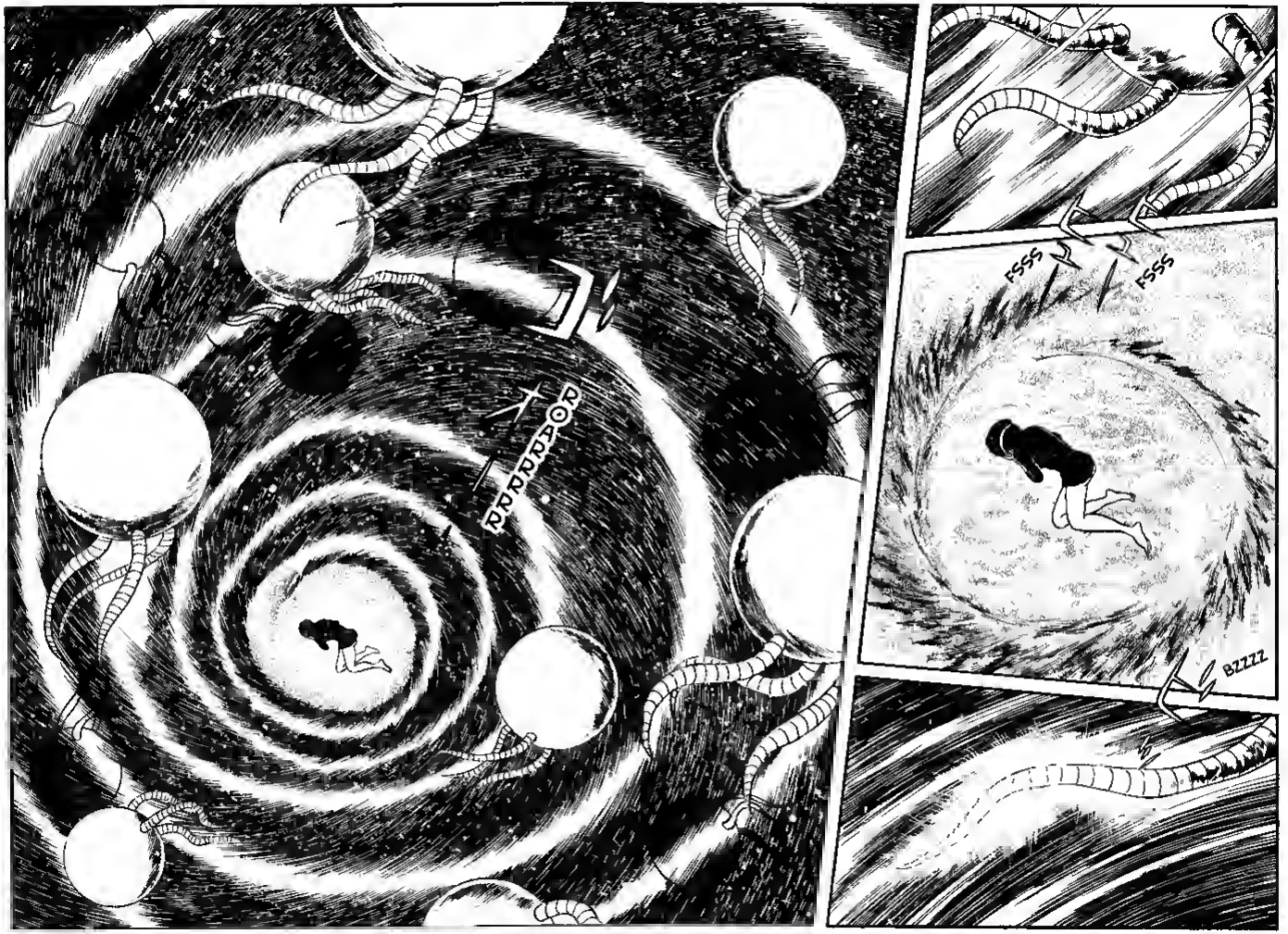
SST
THERE!
NOW ME!
SST
HEH!

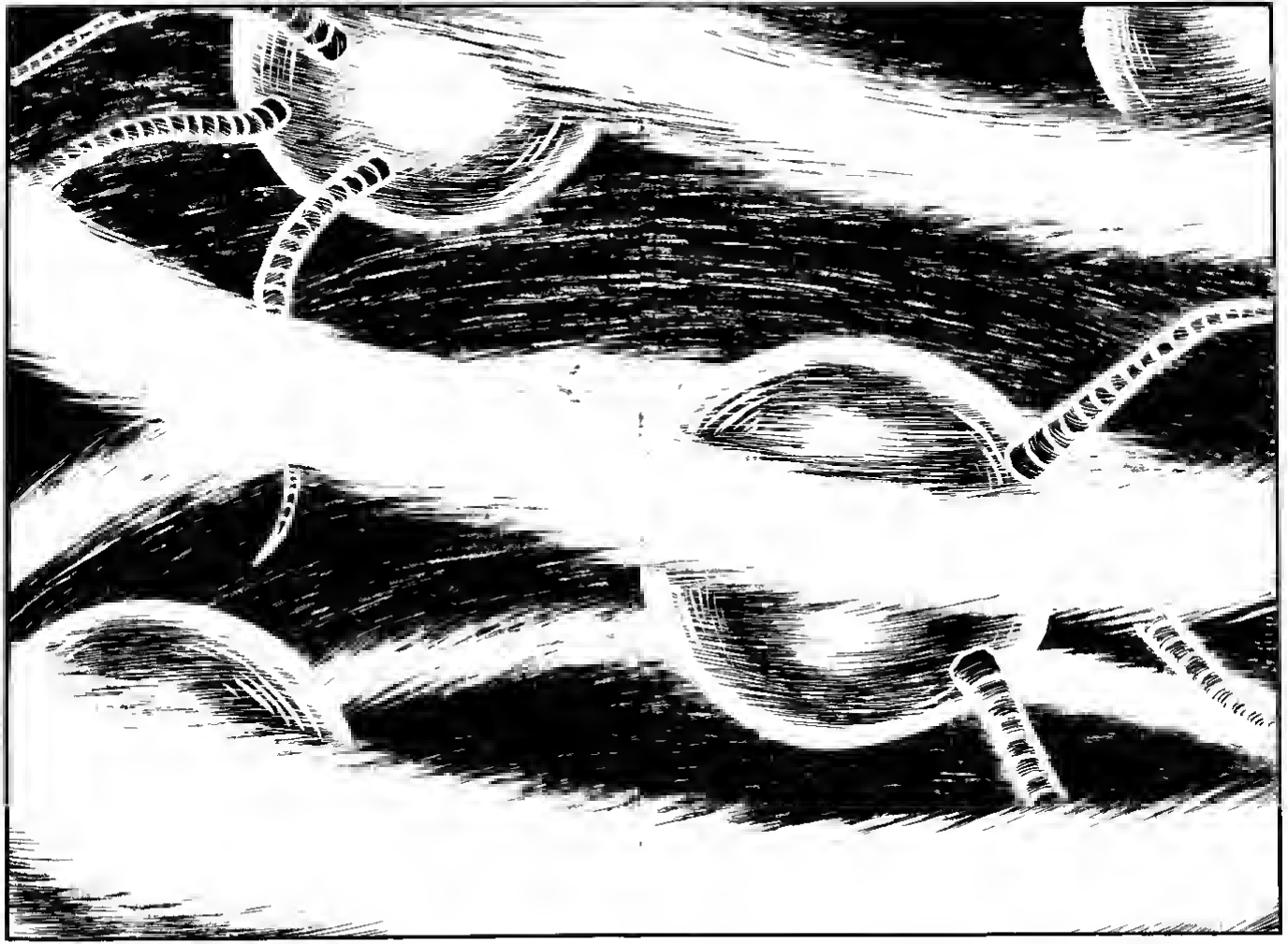

SST
I GOT YOU!
GRAB
YROOO

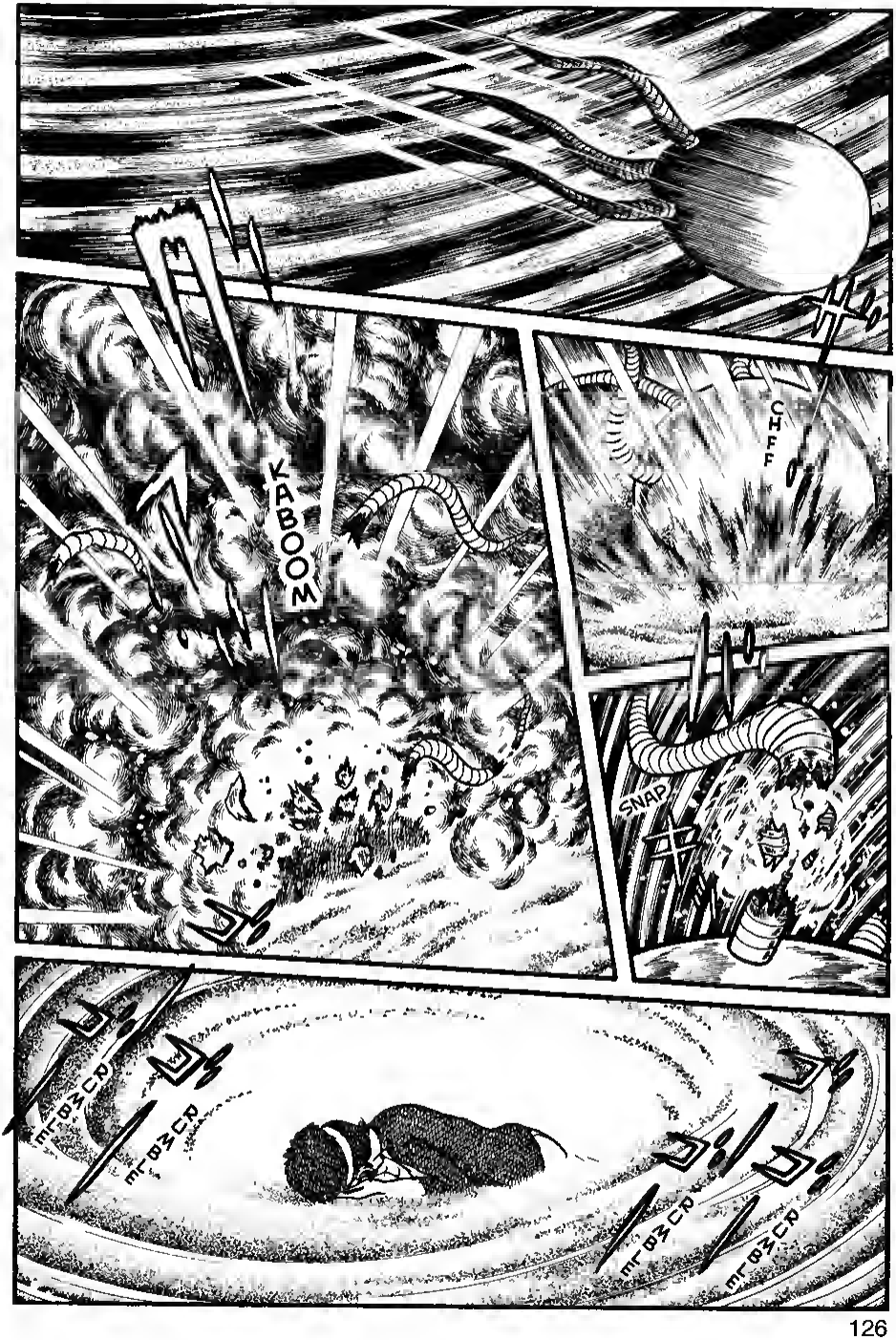
WHAT HAP-PENED?! WHERE'S RUBY?!
WH-WHILE WE WERE IN THE SPACE BETWEEN, SHE BROKE FREE OF ME AND GOT AWAY!!
THAT IDIOT!
SHE'S TRYIN' TO DIE!

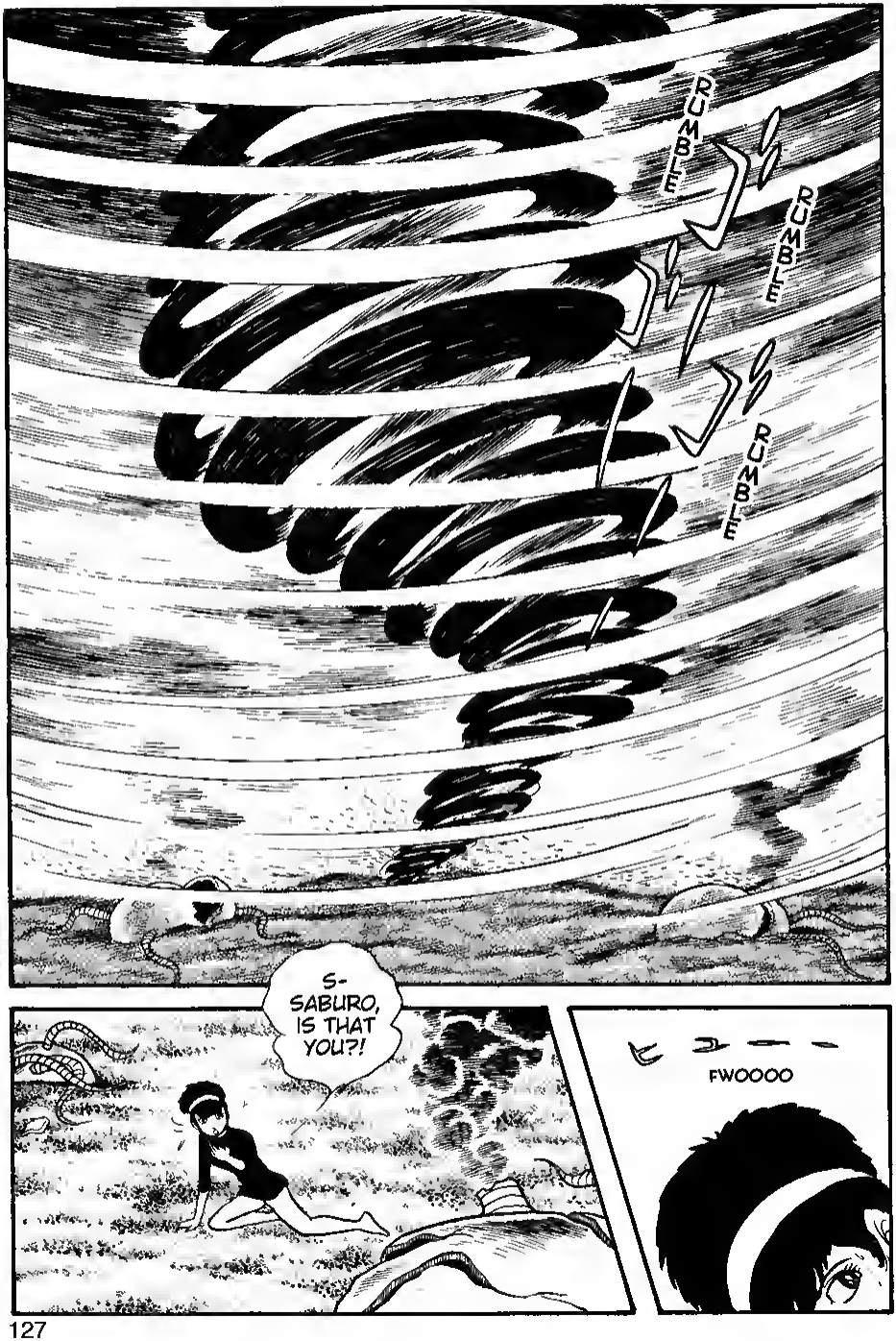


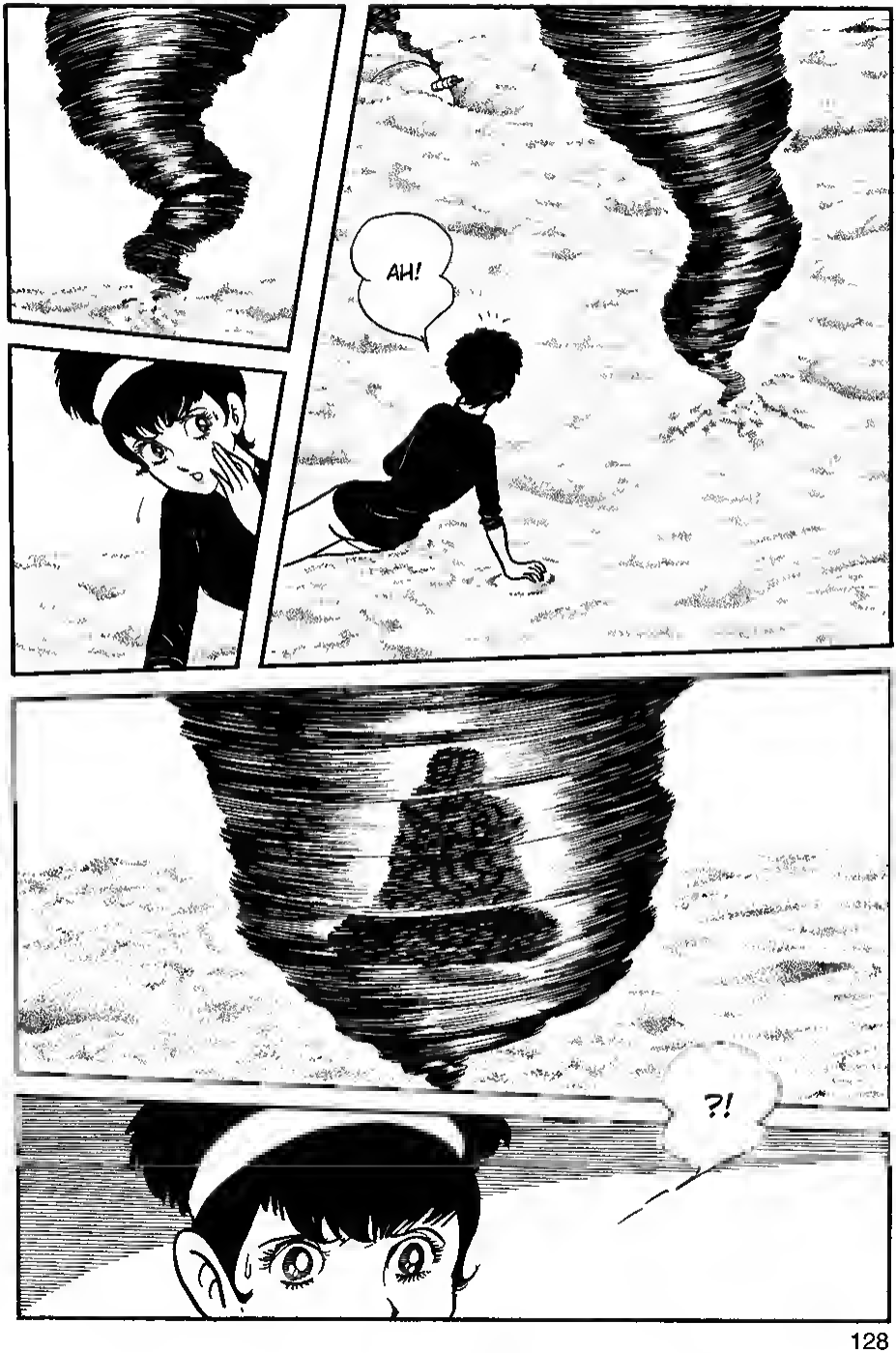


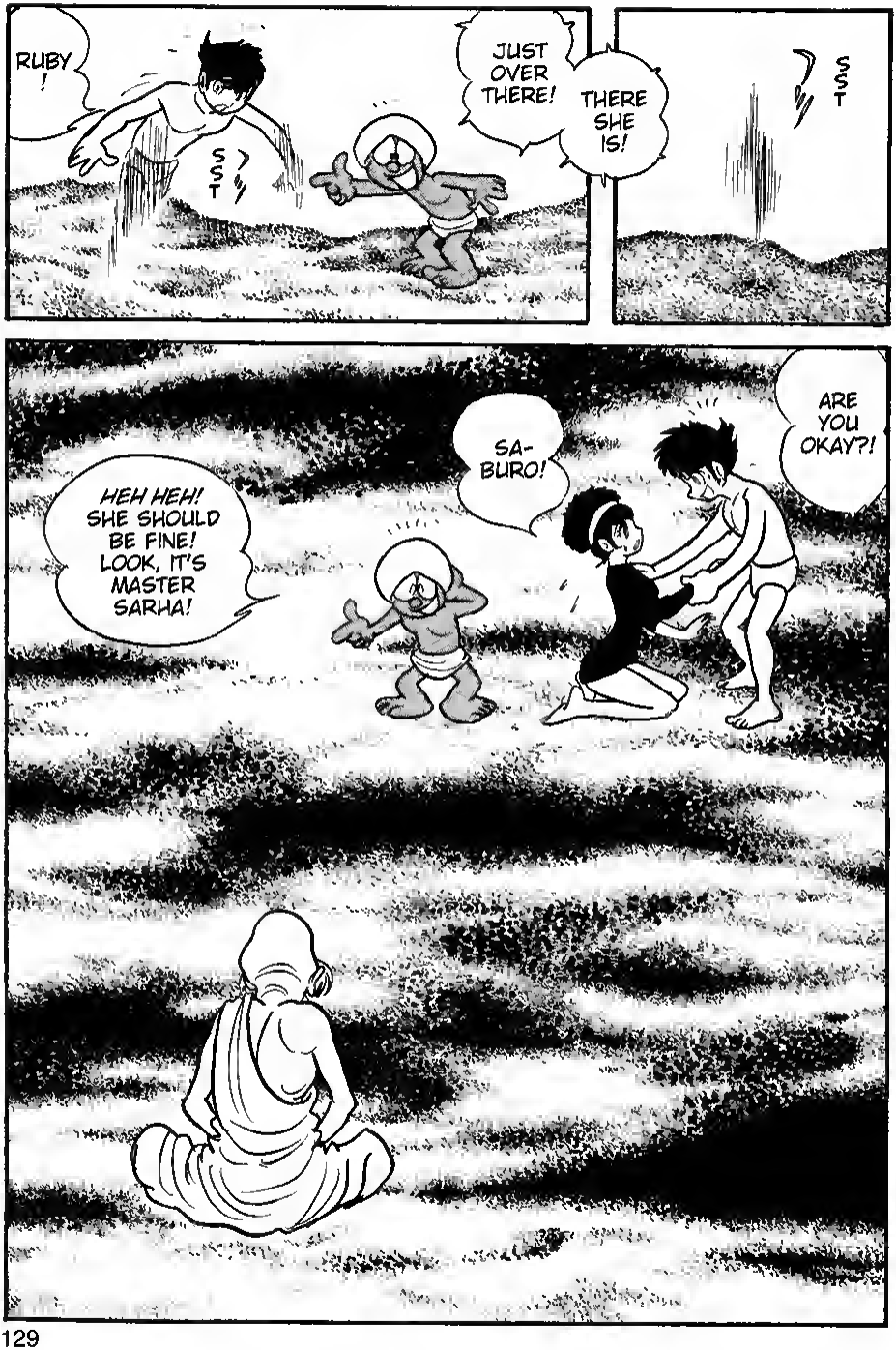

RRRRRR
FSSS
FSSS
BZZZZ

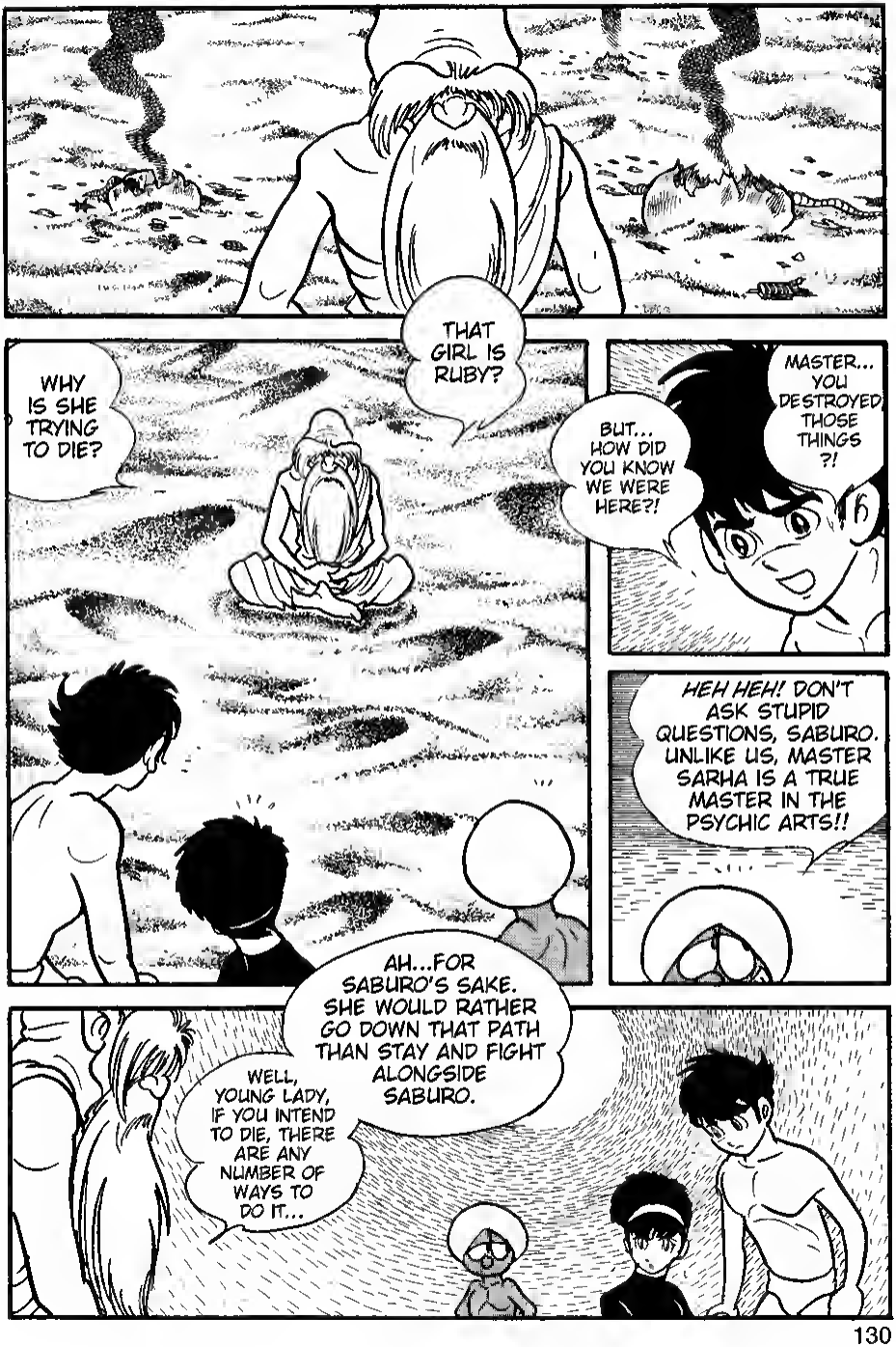



KABOOM
CHFF
SNAP

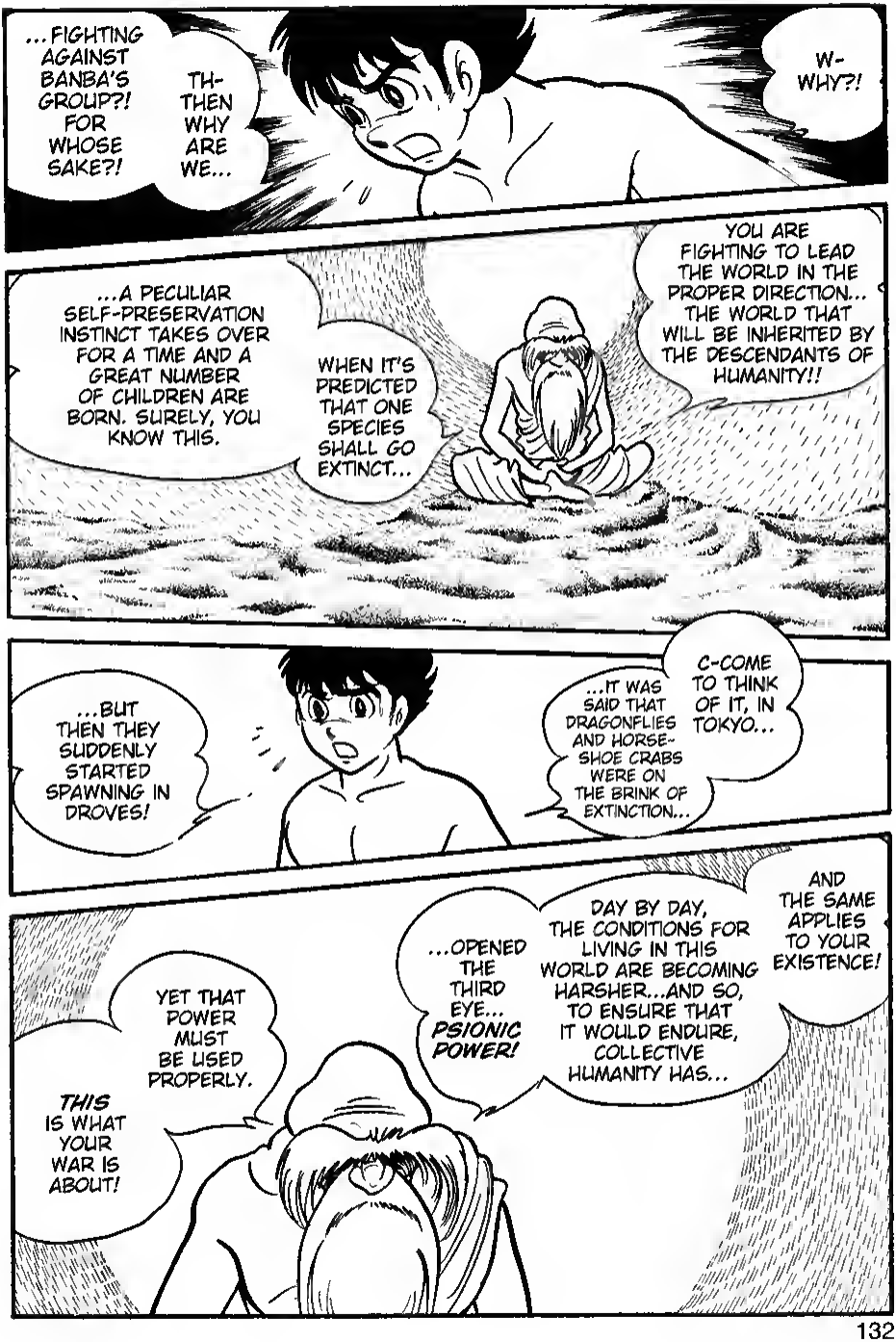

RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
S-SABURO, IS THAT YOU?!
FWOOOO


AH!
?!


RUBY!
SST
JUST OVER THERE!
THERE SHE IS!
SST
ARE YOU OKAY?!
SA-BURO!
HEH HEH! SHE SHOULD BE FINE! LOOK, IT'S MASTER SARHA!

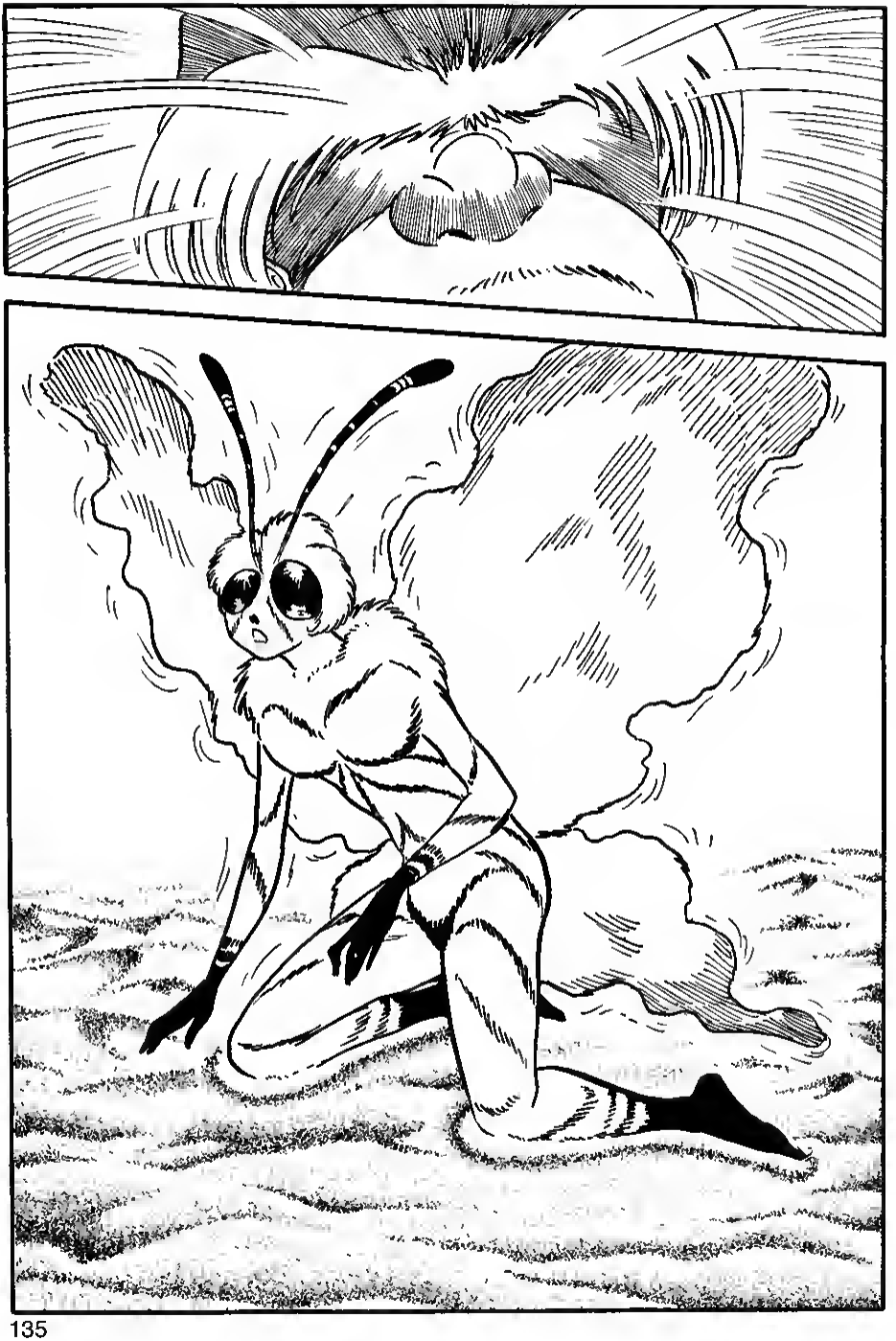

THAT GIRL IS RUBY?
WHY IS SHE TRYING TO DIE?
MASTER... YOU DESTROYED THOSE THINGS ?!
BUT... HOW DID YOU KNOW WE WERE HERE?!
HEH HEH! DON'T ASK STUPID QUESTIONS, SABURO. UNLIKE US, MASTER SARHA IS A TRUE MASTER IN THE PSYCHIC ARTS!!
AH...FOR SABURO'S SAKE. SHE WOULD RATHER GO DOWN THAT PATH THAN STAY AND FIGHT ALONGSIDE SABURO.
WELL, YOUNG LADY, IF YOU INTEND TO DIE, THERE ARE ANY NUMBER OF WAYS TO DO IT...

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, YOU YOUNG PSIONICS HAVE TO LIVE...
DYING IS EXACTLY WHAT *THEY* WANT YOU TO DO!
...BUT I WON'T HAVE IT!
...
IN RECENT YEARS, MORE AND MORE PSIONICS HAVE BEEN BORN, ALL OVER THE WORLD.
RUBY, YOU ARE ONE OF THE FIRST PRECIOUS DESCENDANTS OF HUMANKIND!
THE HUMAN RACE HAS COLLECTIVELY BEGUN TO INTUIT THAT THEIR END IS COMING. THAT PROPHETIC FEELING HAS PRODUCED YOU, THEIR HOPE FOR THE FUTURE!
...FOR YOU ARE THE FUTURE OF HUMANITY!
...THAT'S *TRUE*?!
IT IS.
THE END IS COMING? DON'T TELL ME...
M-MASTER SARHA(...?!

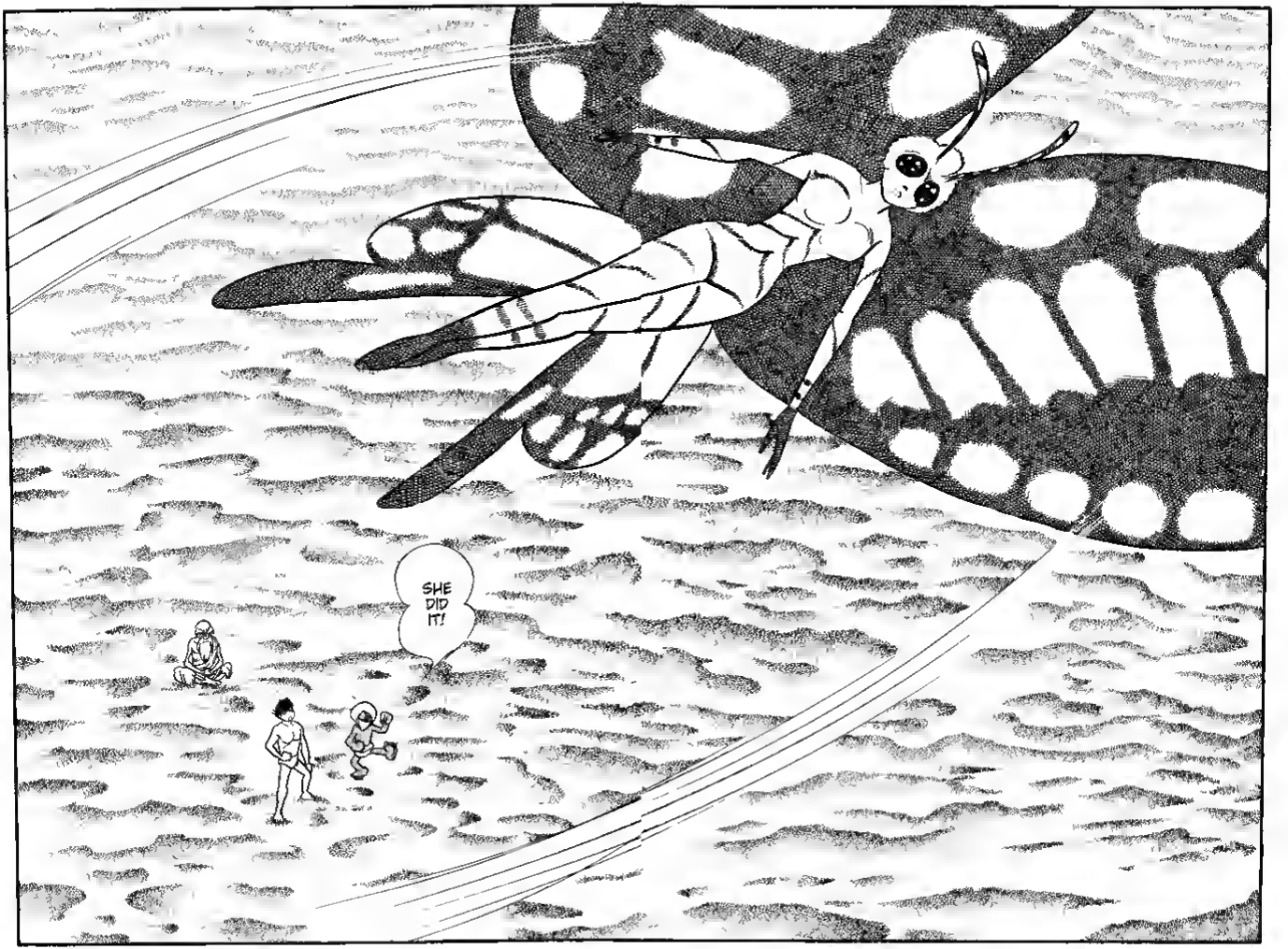

...FIGHTING AGAINST BANBA'S GROUP?! FOR WHOSE SAKE?!
TH-THEN WHY ARE WE...
W-WHY?!
...A PECULIAR SELF-PRESERVATION INSTINCT TAKES OVER FOR A TIME AND A GREAT NUMBER OF CHILDREN ARE BORN. SURELY, YOU KNOW THIS.
WHEN IT'S PREDICTED THAT ONE SPECIES SHALL GO EXTINCT...
YOU ARE FIGHTING TO LEAD THE WORLD IN THE PROPER DIRECTION... THE WORLD THAT WILL BE INHERITED BY THE DESCENDANTS OF HUMANITY!!
...BUT THEN THEY SUDDENLY STARTED SPAWNING IN DROVES!
...IT WAS SAID THAT DRAGONFLIES AND HORSE-SHOE CRABS WERE ON THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION...
C-COME TO THINK OF IT, IN TOKYO...
YET THAT POWER MUST BE USED PROPERLY.
THIS IS WHAT YOUR WAR IS ABOUT!
...OPENED THE THIRD EYE... PSIONIC POWER!
DAY BY DAY, THE CONDITIONS FOR LIVING IN THIS WORLD ARE BECOMING HARSHER...AND SO, TO ENSURE THAT IT WOULD ENDURE, COLLECTIVE HUMANITY HAS...
AND THE SAME APPLIES TO YOUR EXISTENCE!

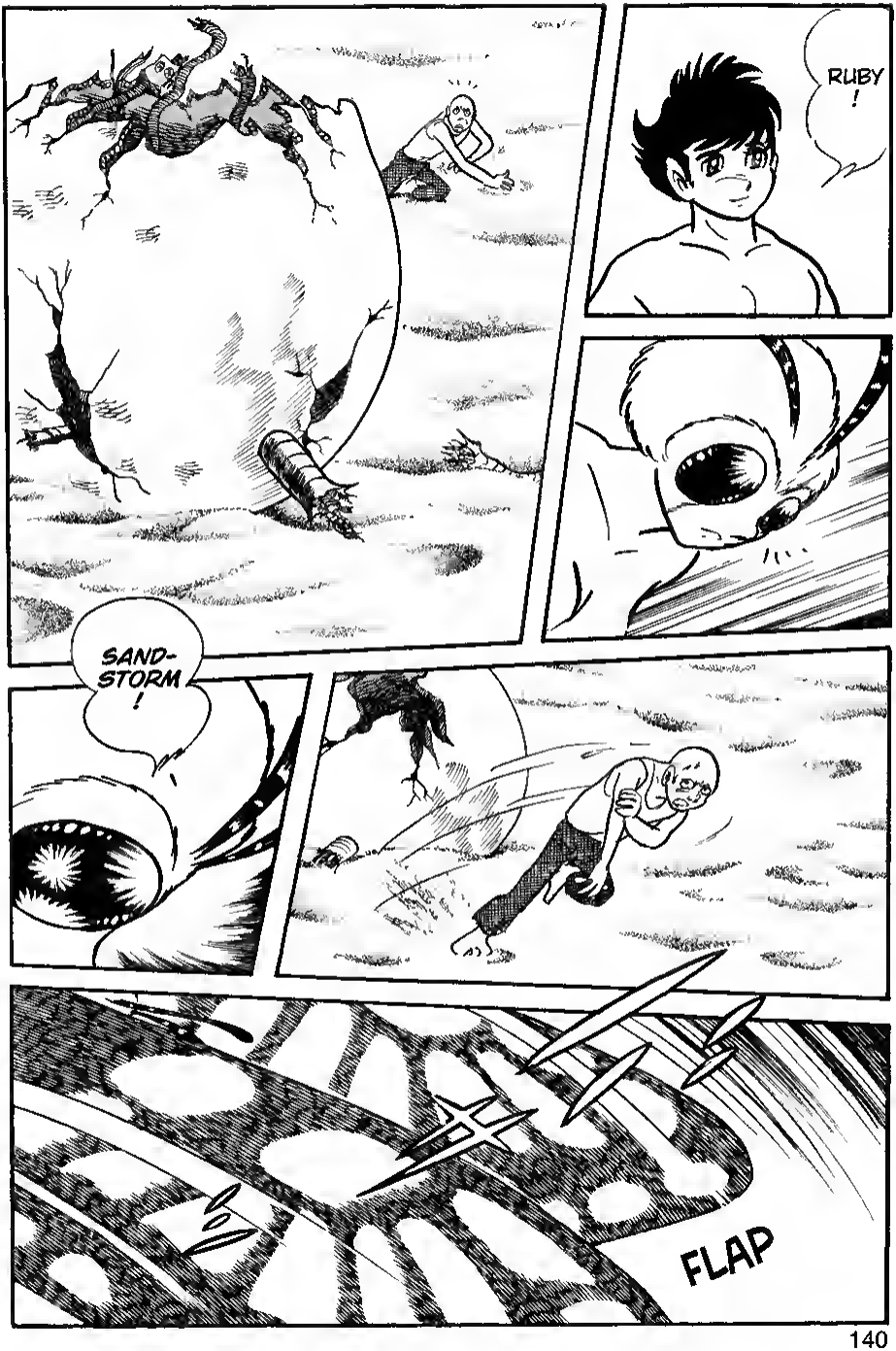
I WOULD ONLY GET IN THE WAY, ANYWAY...
B-BUT I DON'T DESERVE TO SURVIVE!
WHY DON'T YOU TRY TRANS-FORMING ?
MMM. IN THE PAST, YOU WERE SHACKLED BY YOUR WEAKNESS. PERHAPS EVEN NOW, YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO ATTAIN THE GROWTH YOU MIGHT HAVE OTHERWISE.
TRANS-FORM-ING ?!
BY TRANSFORMING YOURSELF, WRAPPING YOURSELF IN A DIFFERENT COSTUME, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO DRAW OUT THE POTENTIAL OF YOUR PSIONIC POWER!!
INDEED. AS SABURO DID.
YOU MUSTN'T GO DOWN THE SAME ROAD THAT THE HUMANS HAVE TAKEN!

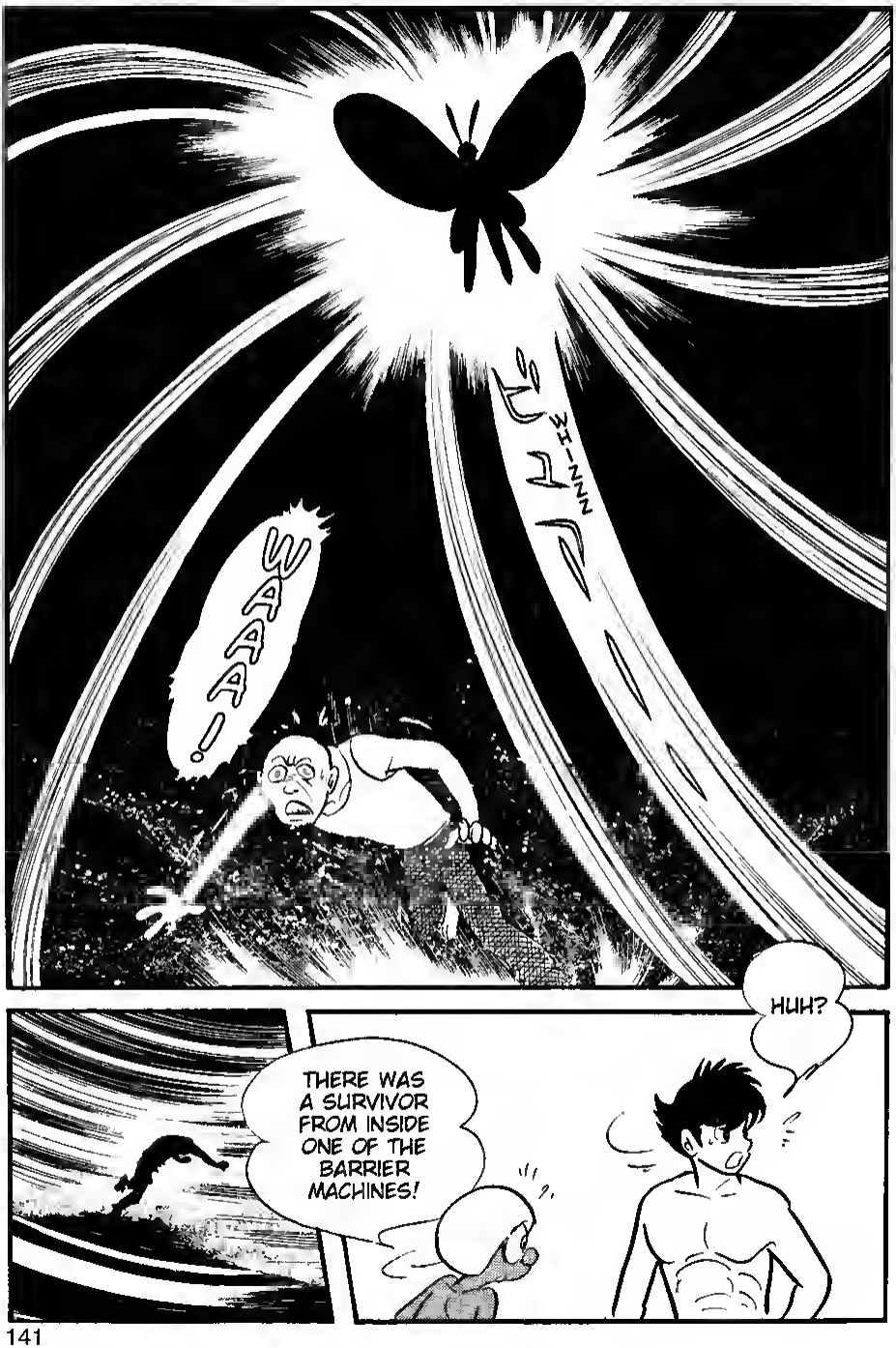
WHAT KIND OF FORM WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE?
THE SAME AS SABURO ...
I WANT TO BECOME A BUTTER-FLY TOO.
LOOK AT THESE TWO!
WHOO
WHOO
HEH HEH
RUSH!



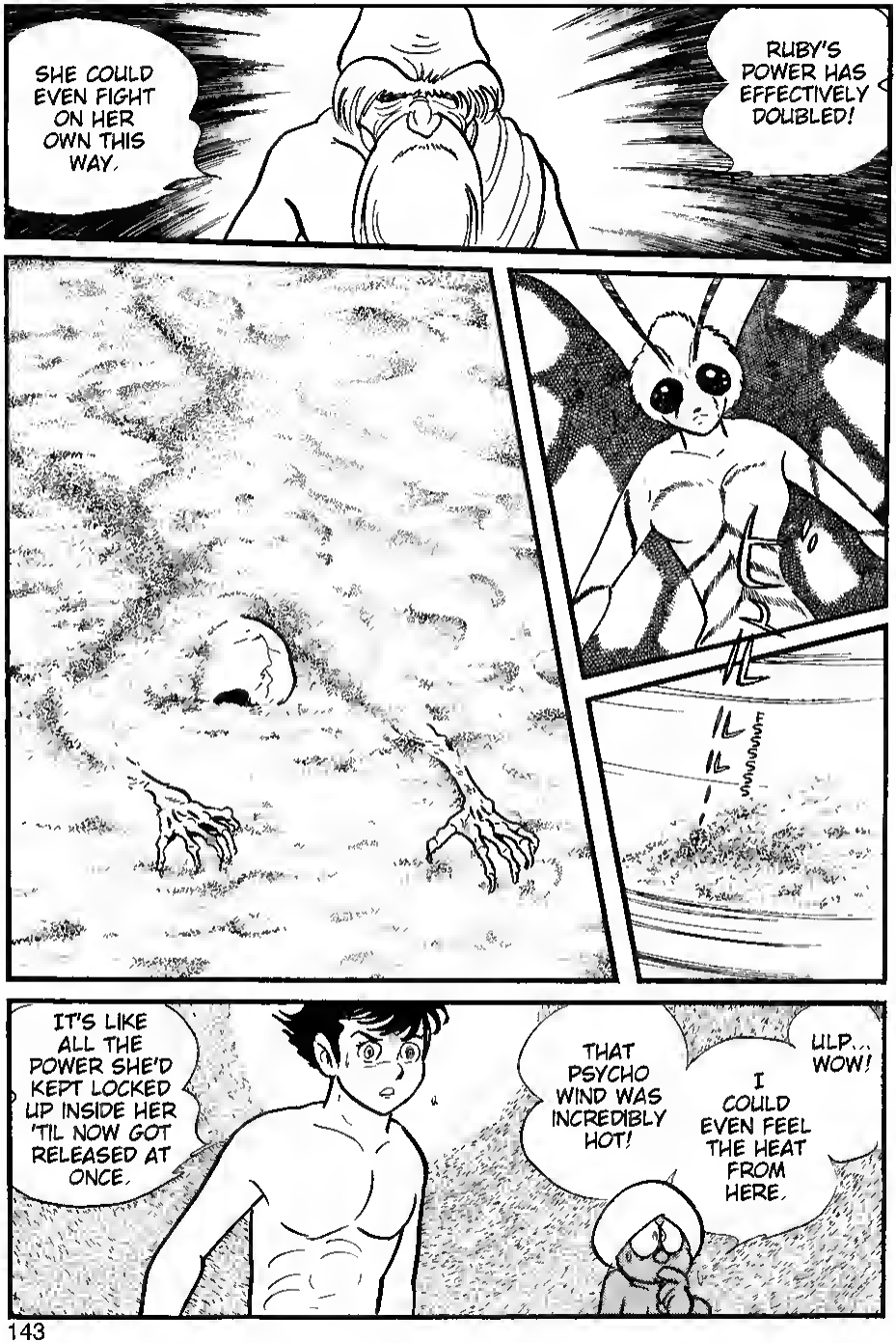
HSIM

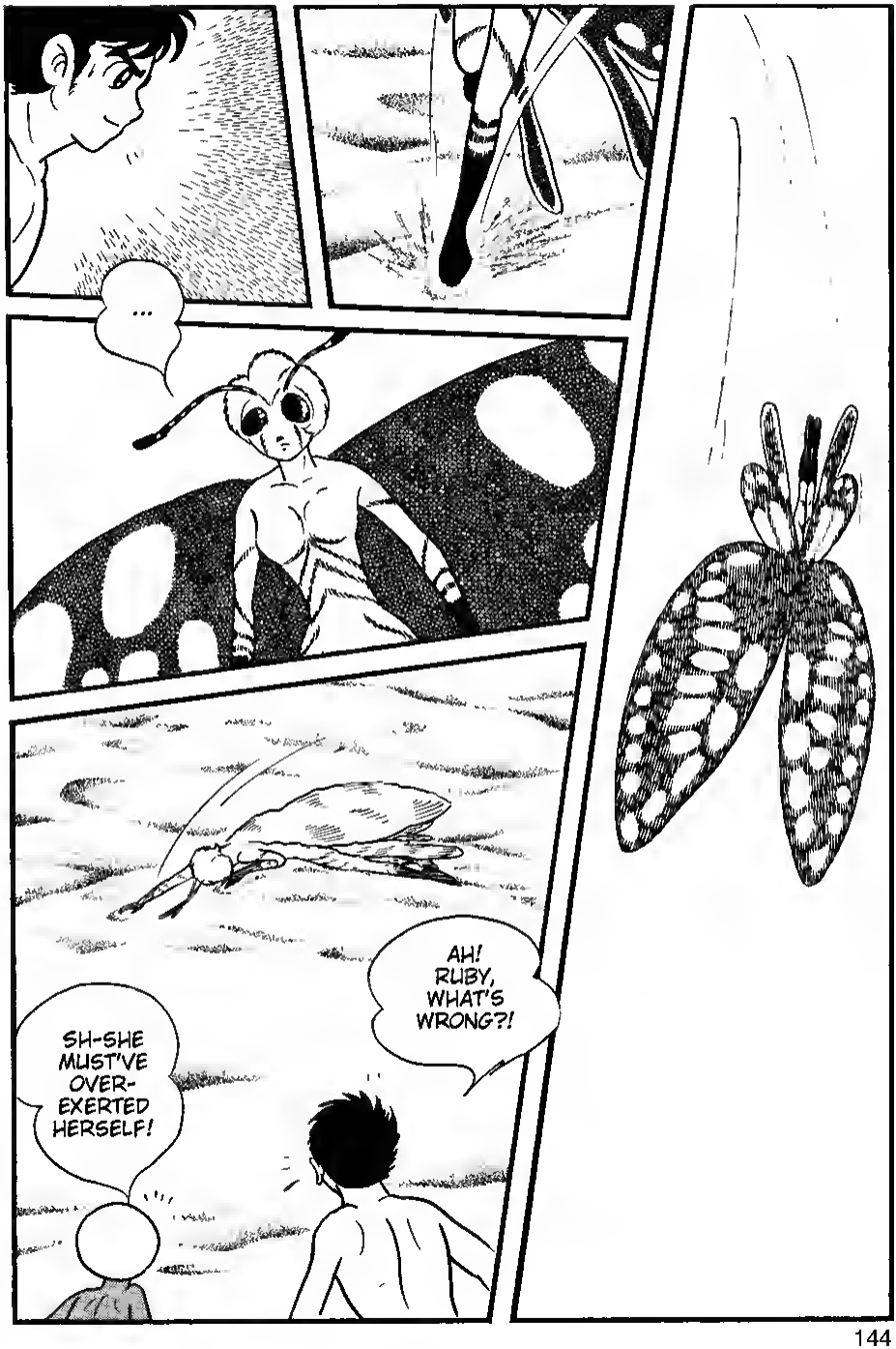

SHE DID IT!

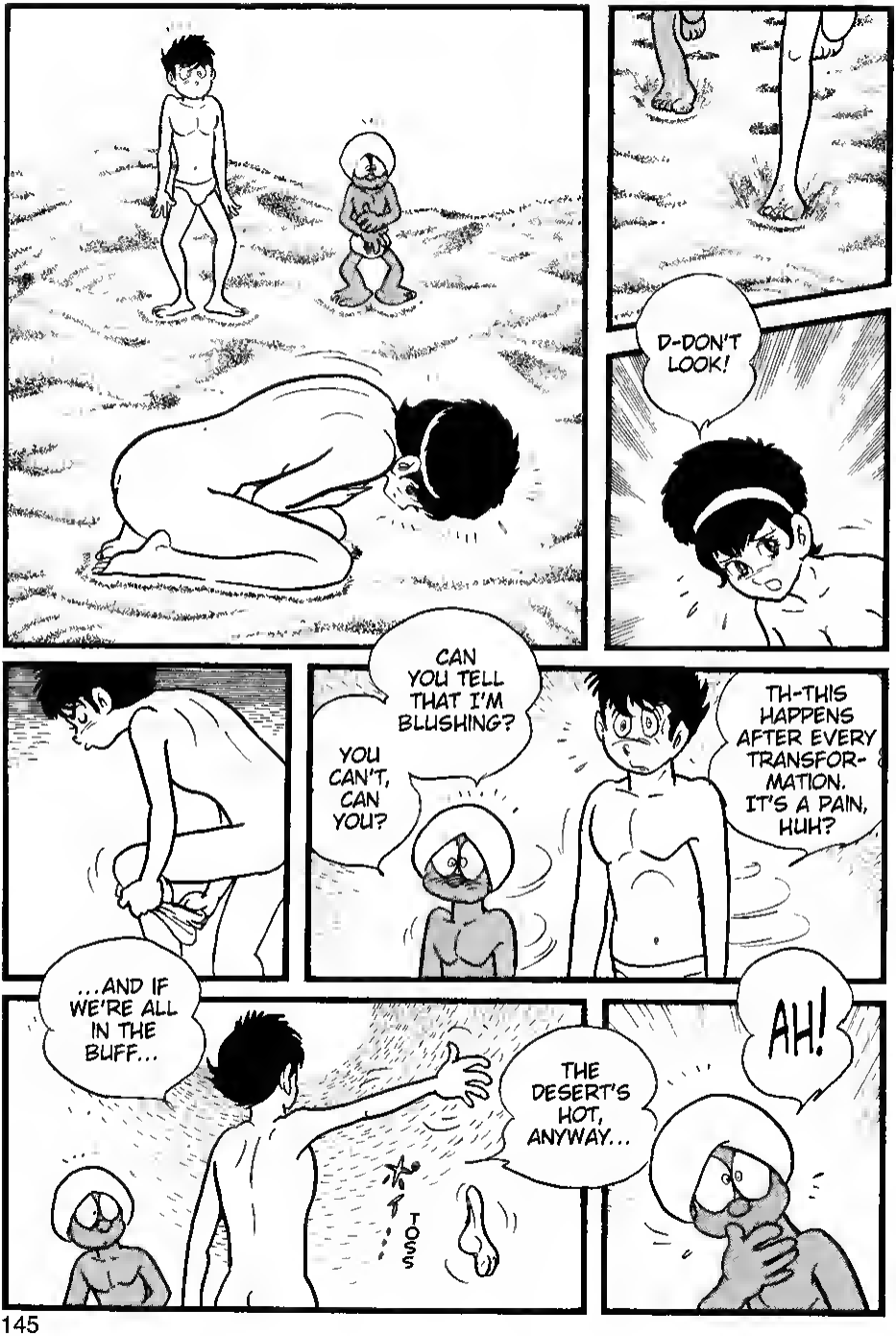

RUBY
!
SAND-
STORM
!
FLAP

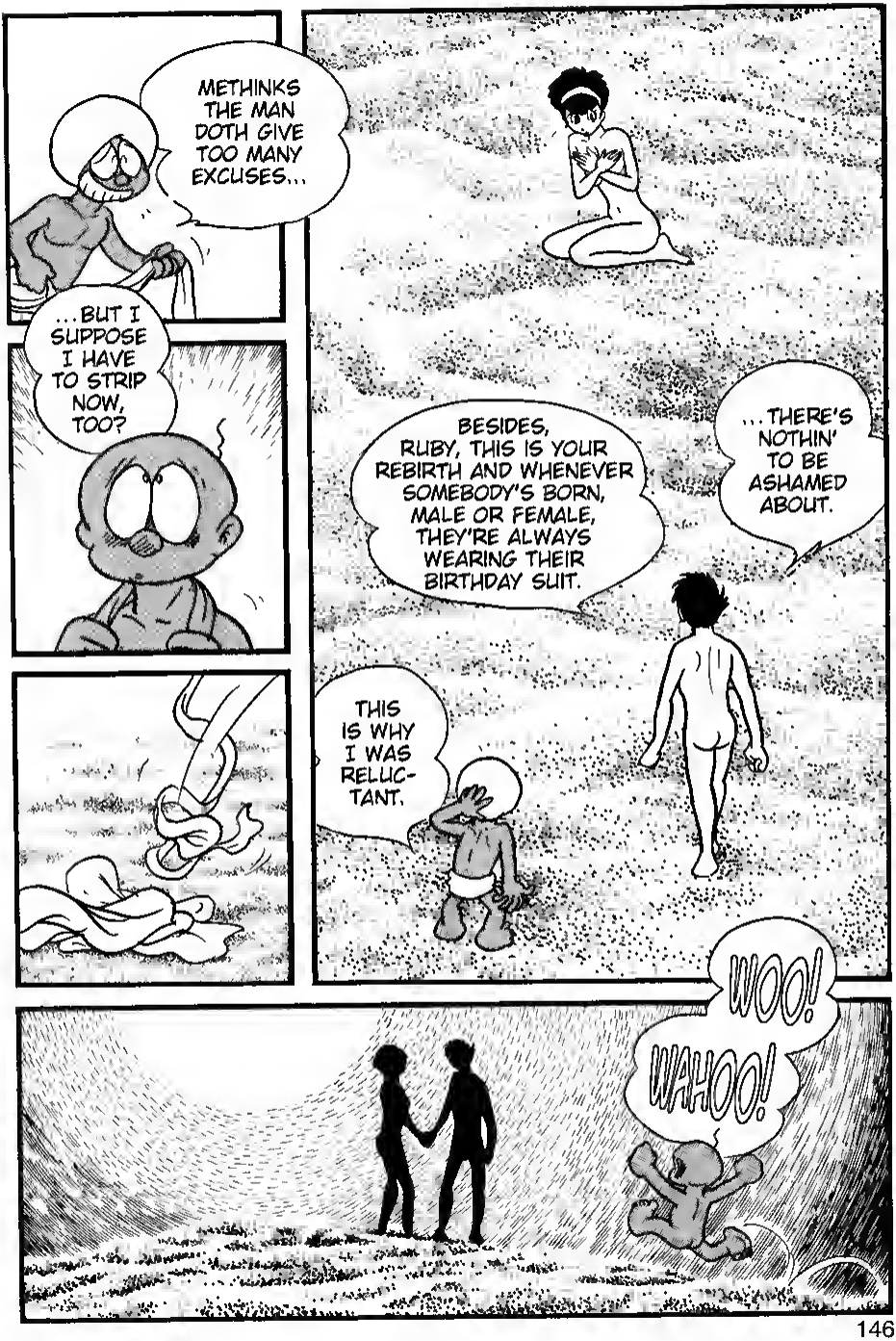

WHIZZZ
AAAU!
HUH?
THERE WAS A SURVIVOR FROM INSIDE ONE OF THE BARRIER MACHINES!

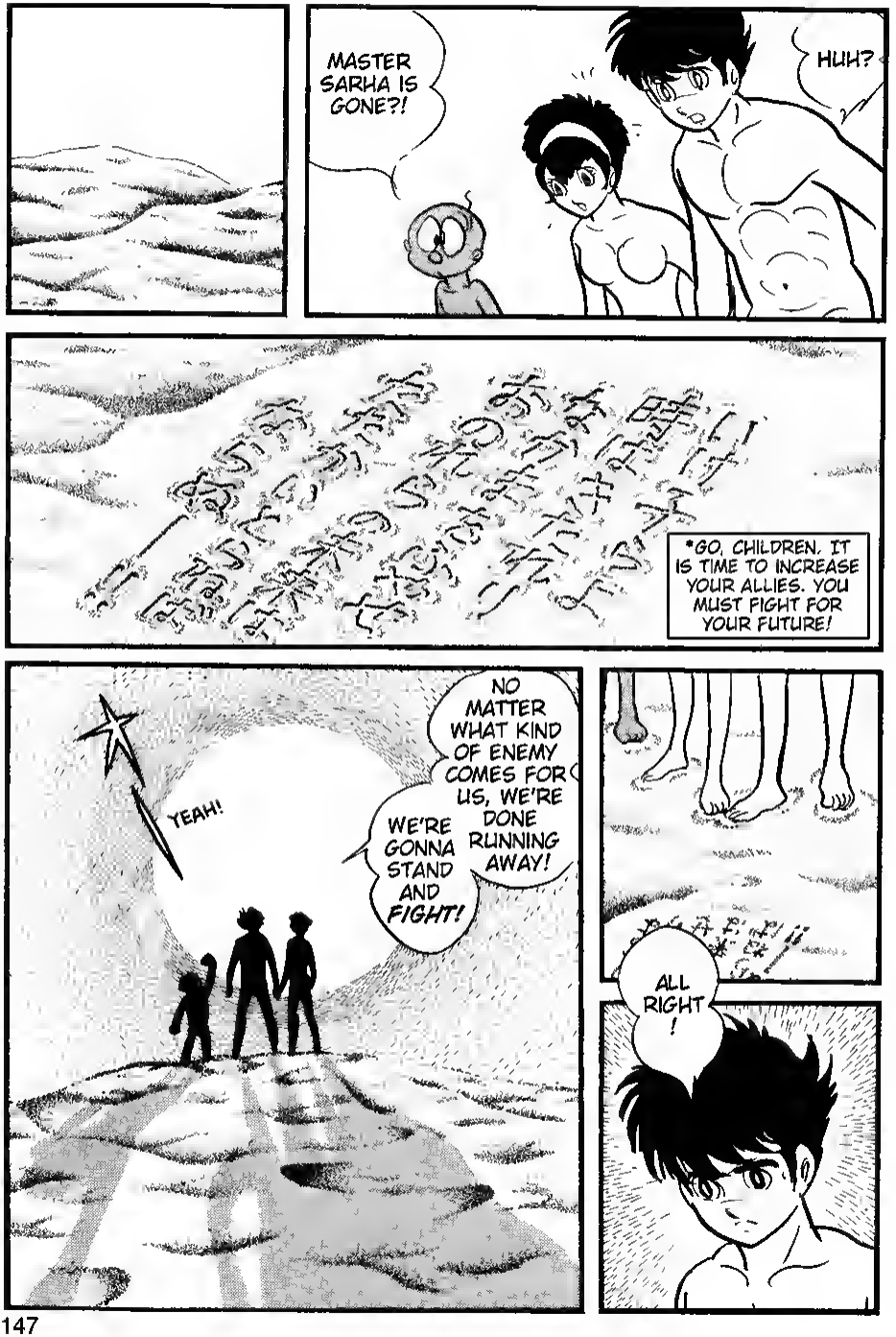
FWOOOOSH
FWOOOO
PSYCHO WIND!
AND THEN HER TRANSFORMED BODY, IN TURN, CHANGED HER SPIRIT. SHE'S GOTTEN STRONGER BOTH WAYS!
INSTRUCTIONS FROM HER SPIRIT CHANGED THE ARRANGEMENT OF HER BODY'S CELLS.
QUITE SO.

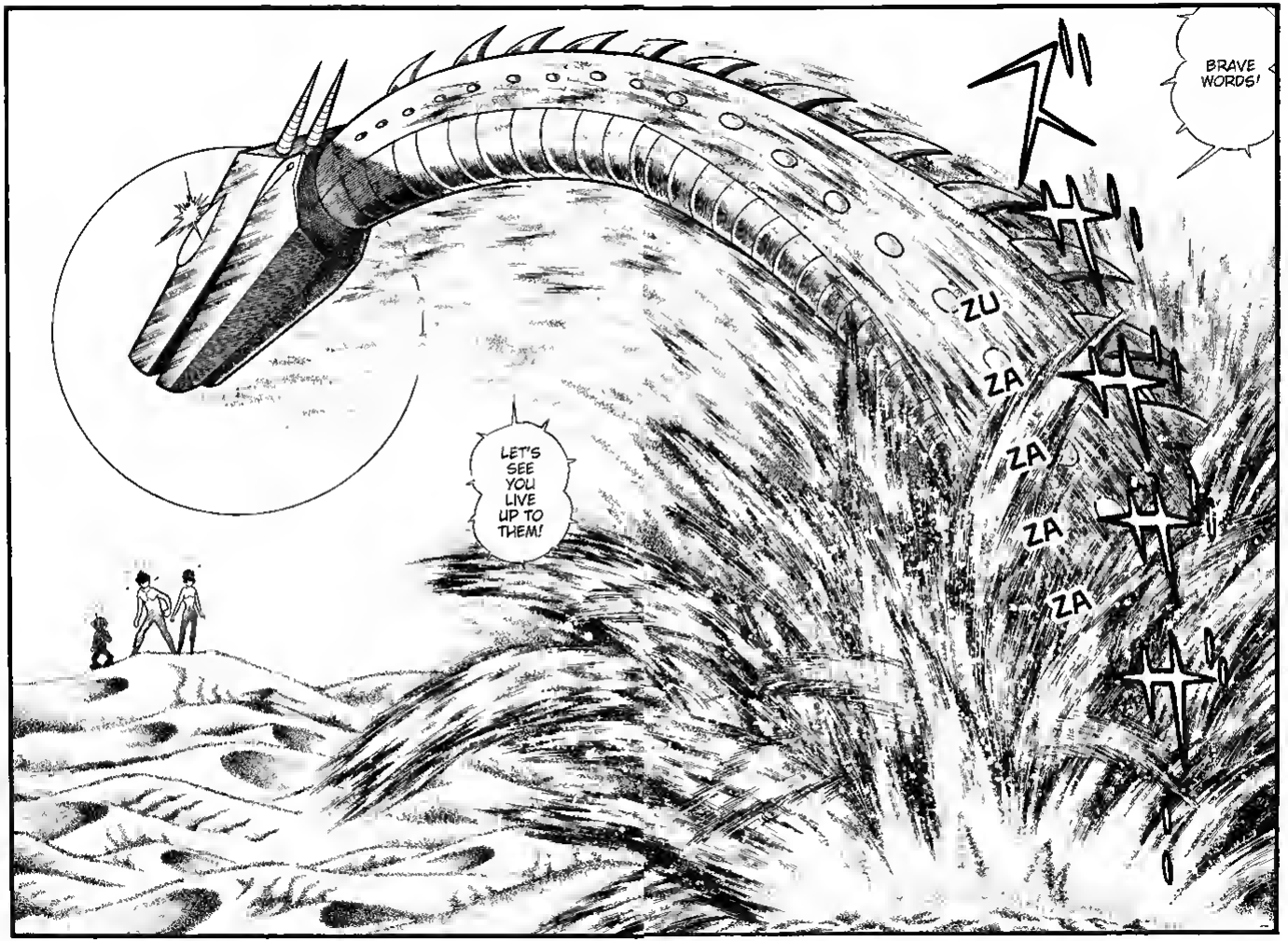

SHE COULD EVEN FIGHT ON HER OWN THIS WAY.
RUBY'S POWER HAS EFFECTIVELY DOUBLED!
IT'S LIKE ALL THE POWER SHE'D KEPT LOCKED UP INSIDE HER 'TIL NOW GOT RELEASED AT ONCE.
THAT PSYCHO WIND WAS INCREDIBLY HOT!
I COULD EVEN FEEL THE HEAT FROM HERE.
ULP... WOW!


...
AH! RUBY, WHAT'S WRONG?!
SH-SHE MUST'VE OVER-EXERTED HERSELF!

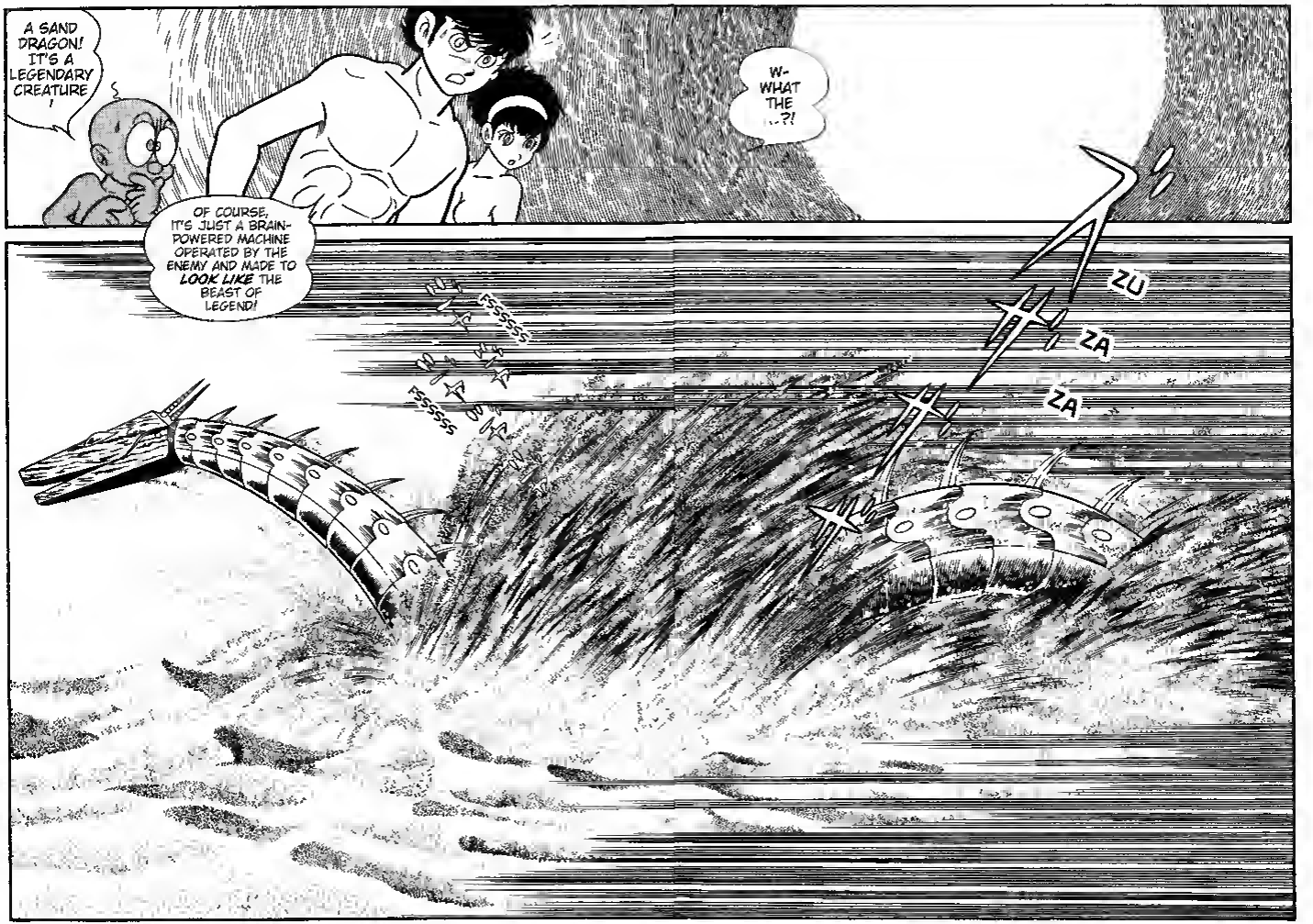

D-DON'T LOOK!
CAN YOU TELL THAT I'M BLUSHING?
YOU CAN'T, CAN YOU?
TH-THIS HAPPENS AFTER EVERY TRANSFOR-MATION. IT'S A PAIN, HUH?
...AND IF WE'RE ALL IN THE BUFF...
THE DESERT'S HOT, ANYWAY...
TOSS
AH!

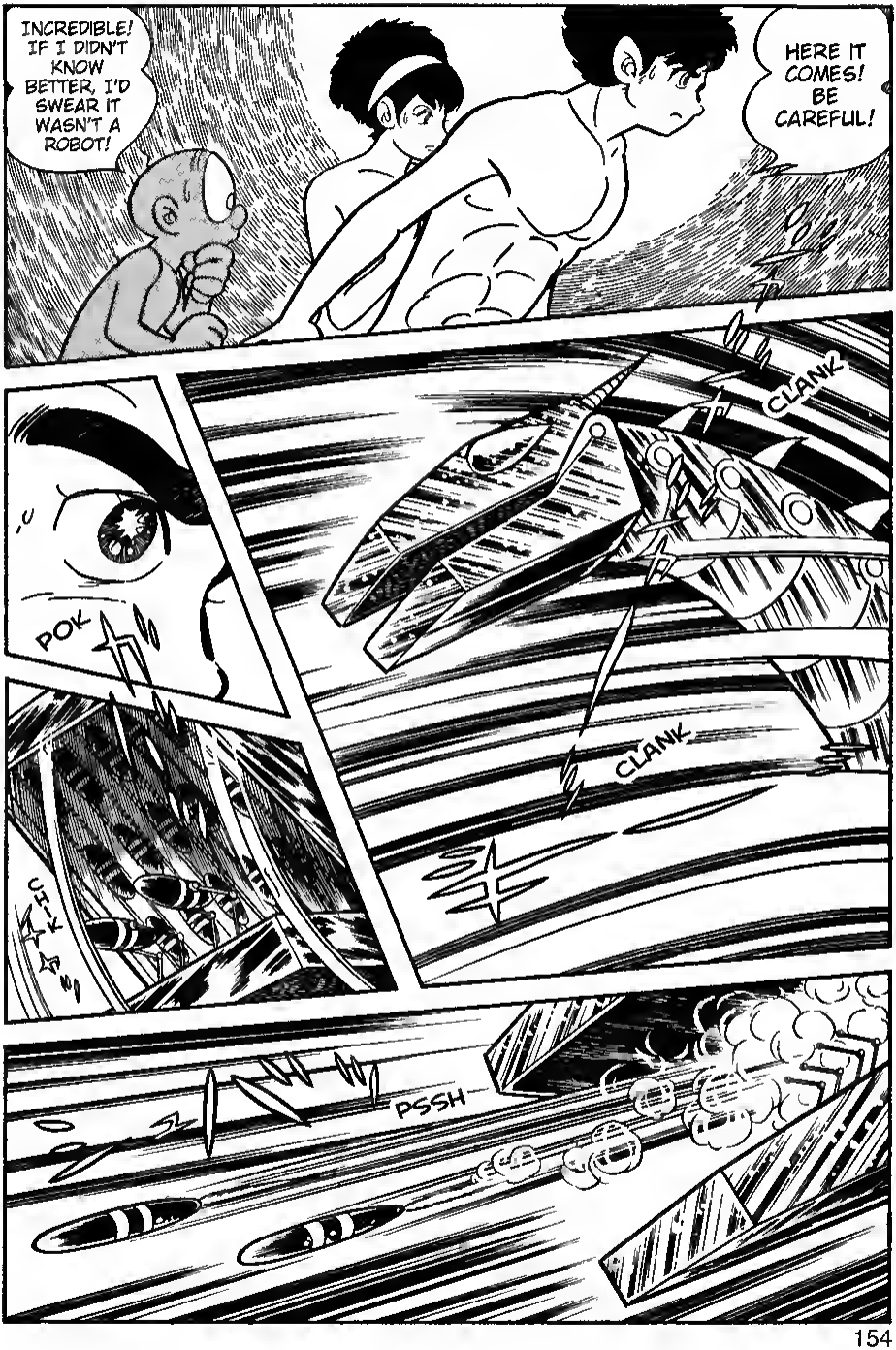

METHINKS THE MAN DOTH GIVE TOO MANY EXCUSES...
...BUT I SUPPOSE I HAVE TO STRIP NOW, TOO?
BESIDES, RUBY, THIS IS YOUR REBIRTH AND WHENEVER SOMEBODY'S BORN, MALE OR FEMALE, THEY'RE ALWAYS WEARING THEIR BIRTHDAY SUIT.
...THERE'S NOTHIN' TO BE ASHAMED ABOUT.
THIS IS WHY I WAS RELUC-TANT.
WOO!
WAHOO!


MASTER SARHA IS GONE?!
HUH?
*GO, CHILDREN. IT IS TIME TO INCREASE YOUR ALLIES. YOU MUST FIGHT FOR YOUR FUTURE!
YEAH!
WE'RE GONNA STAND AND FIGHT!
NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF ENEMY COMES FOR US, WE'RE DONE RUNNING AWAY!
ALL RIGHT!

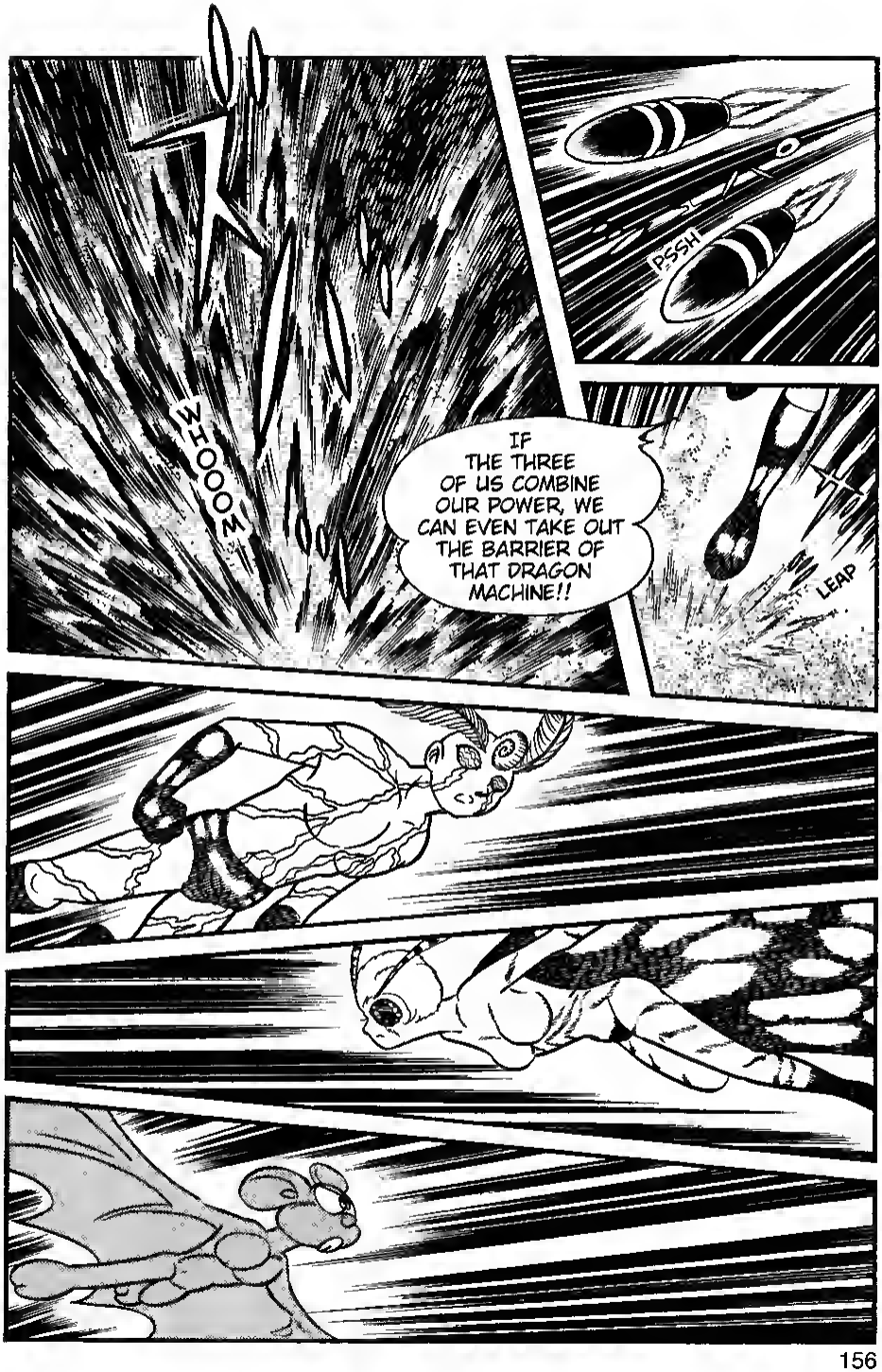

BRAVE WORDS!
ZU
ZA
ZA
ZA
ZA
LET'S SEE YOU LIVE UP TO THEM!

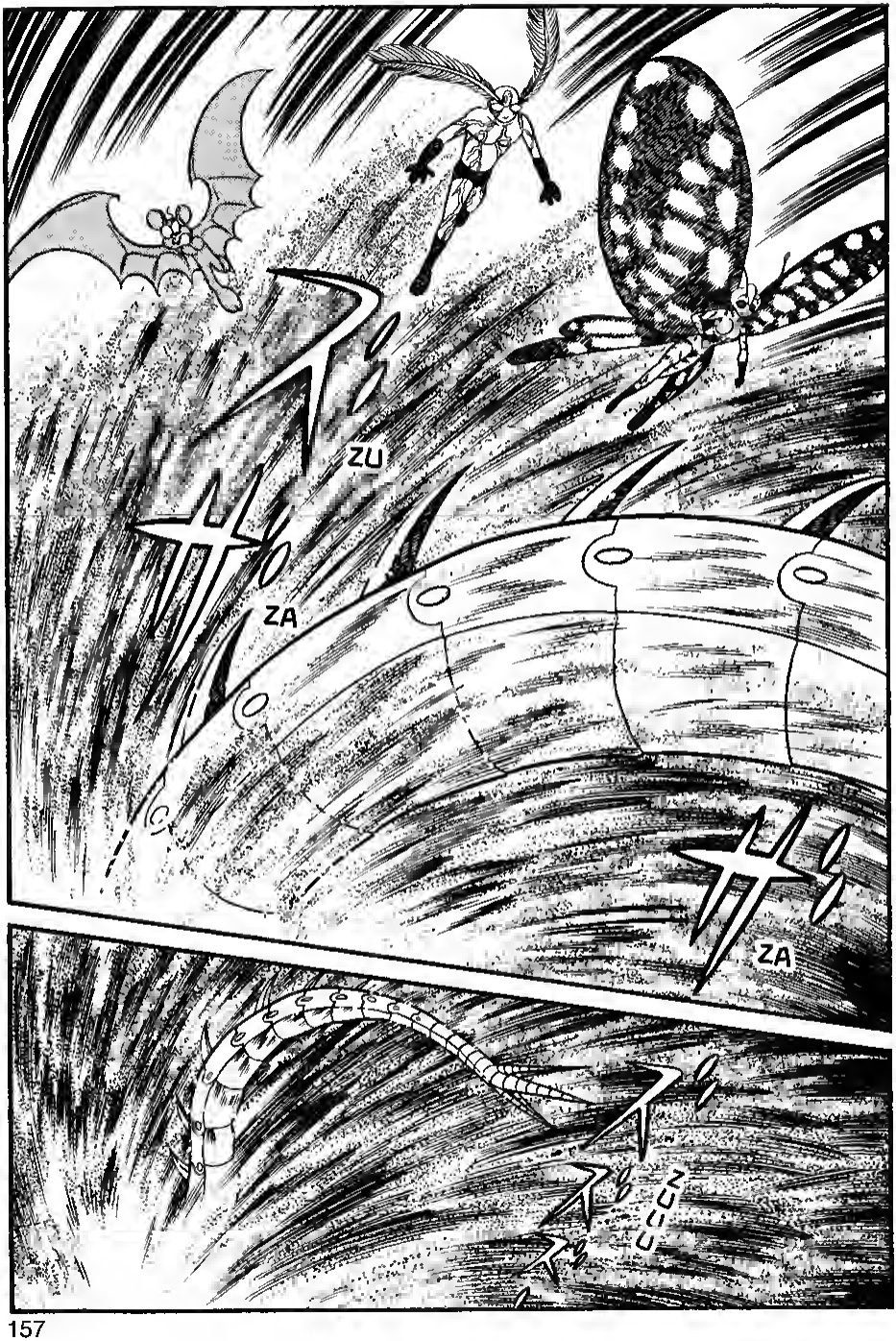
ZAAA

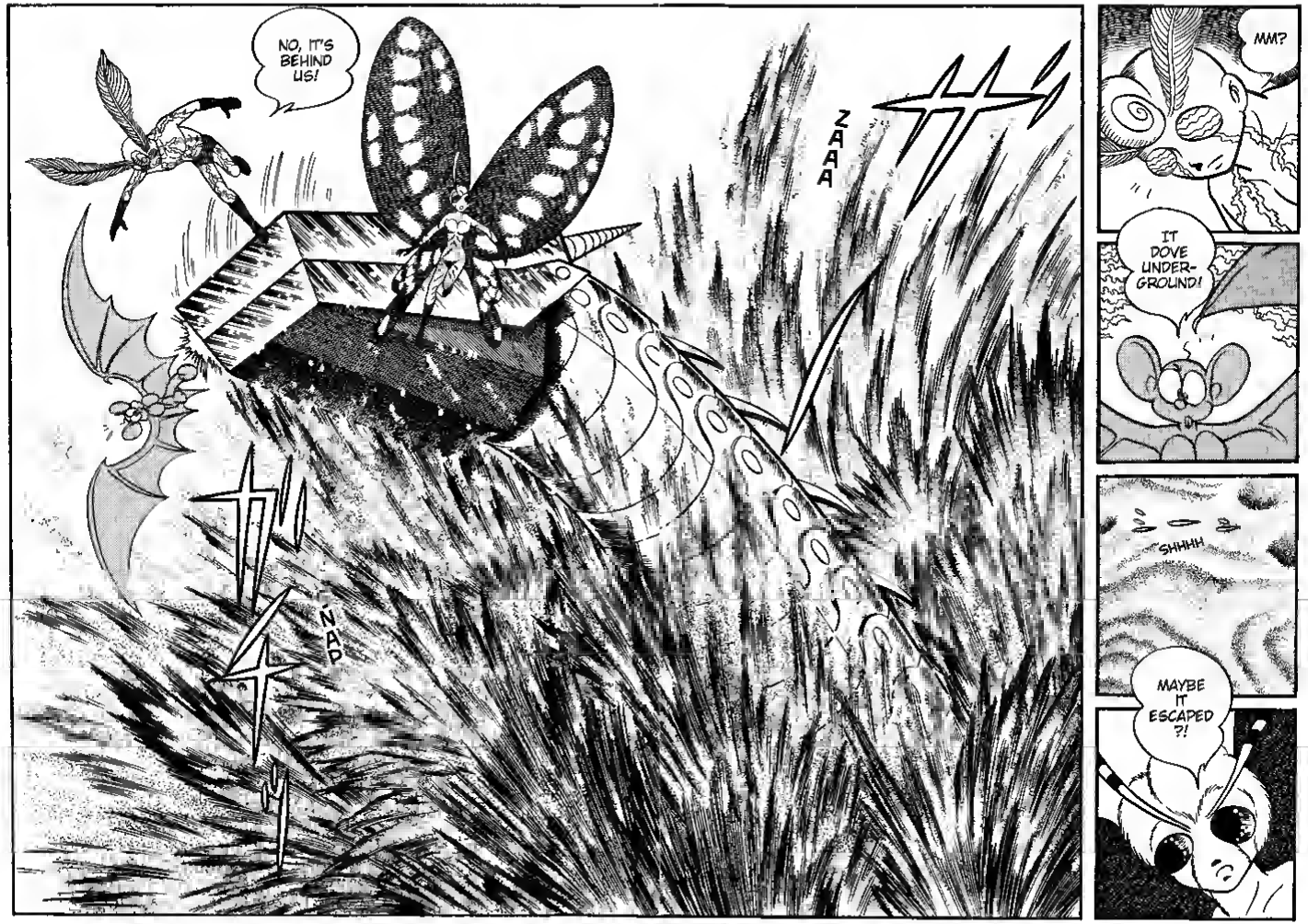

A SAND DRAGON! IT'S A LEGENDARY CREATURE!
W-WHAT THE...?!
OF COURSE, IT'S JUST A BRAIN-POWERED MACHINE OPERATED BY THE ENEMY AND MADE TO *LOOK LIKE* THE BEAST OF LEGEND!
FSSSSS
FSSSSS
ZU
ZA
ZA


INCREDIBLE! IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, I'D SWEAR IT WASN'T A ROBOT!
HERE IT COMES! BE CAREFUL!
CLANK
POK
CLANK
CHAK
PSSH

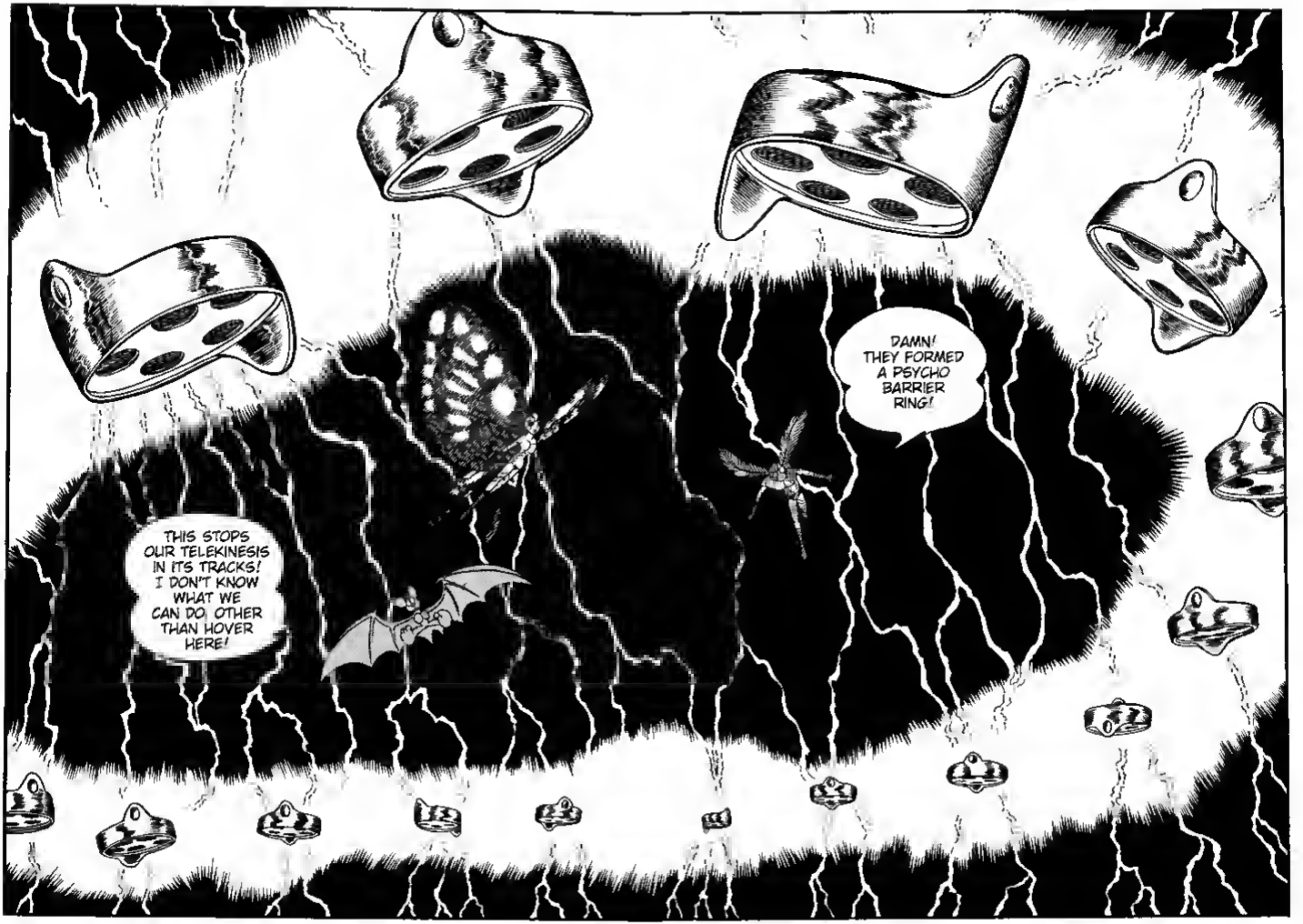
BAWHOOM
I WAS REALLY STARTING TO FEEL SELF-CONSCIOUS ABOUT MY FULL FRONTAL!
THANK YOU!
BOTH OF YOU, TRANS-FORM!

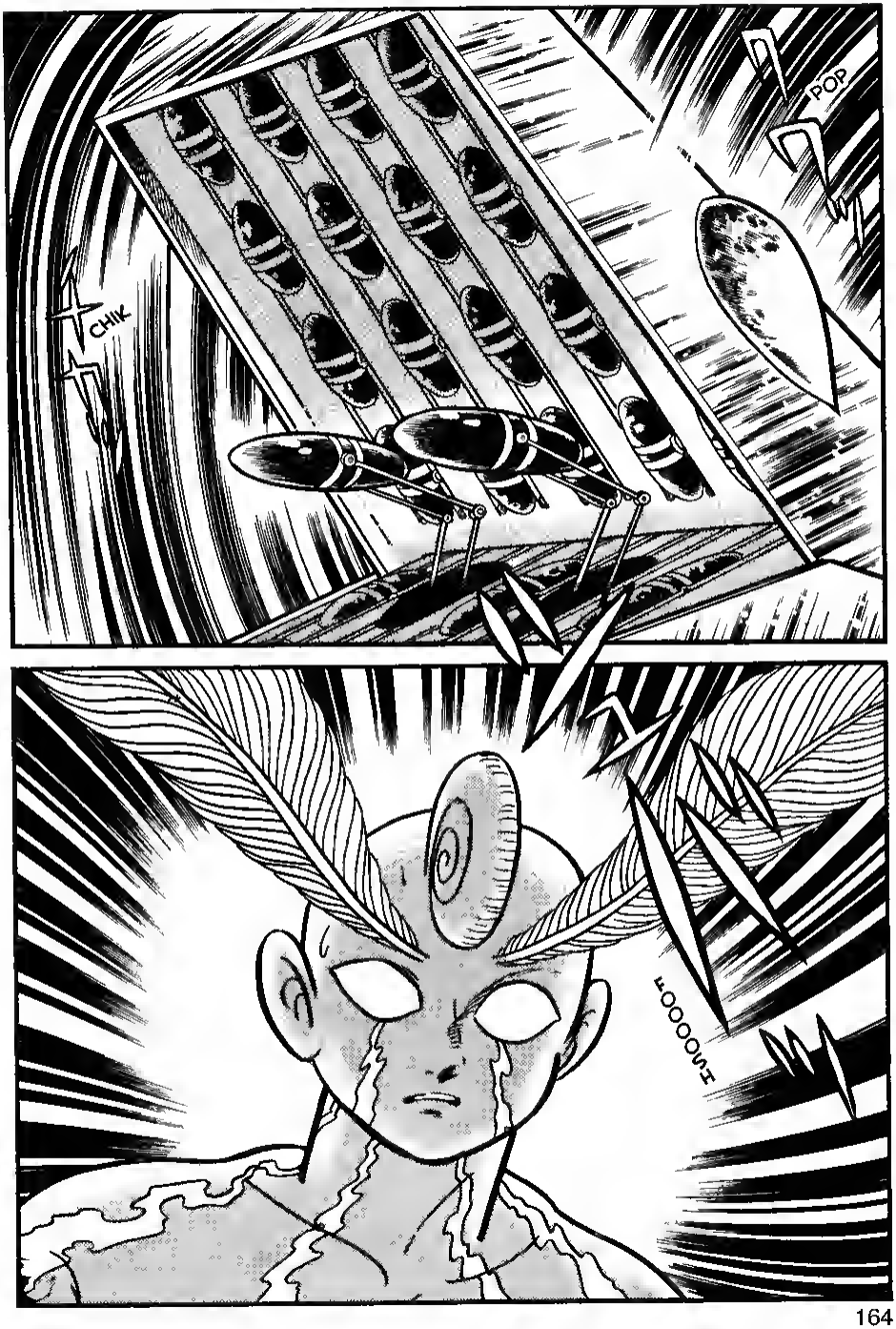

KA
WHOOOM
PSSH
IF THE THREE OF US COMBINE OUR POWER, WE CAN EVEN TAKE OUT THE BARRIER OF THAT DRAGON MACHINE!!
LEAP

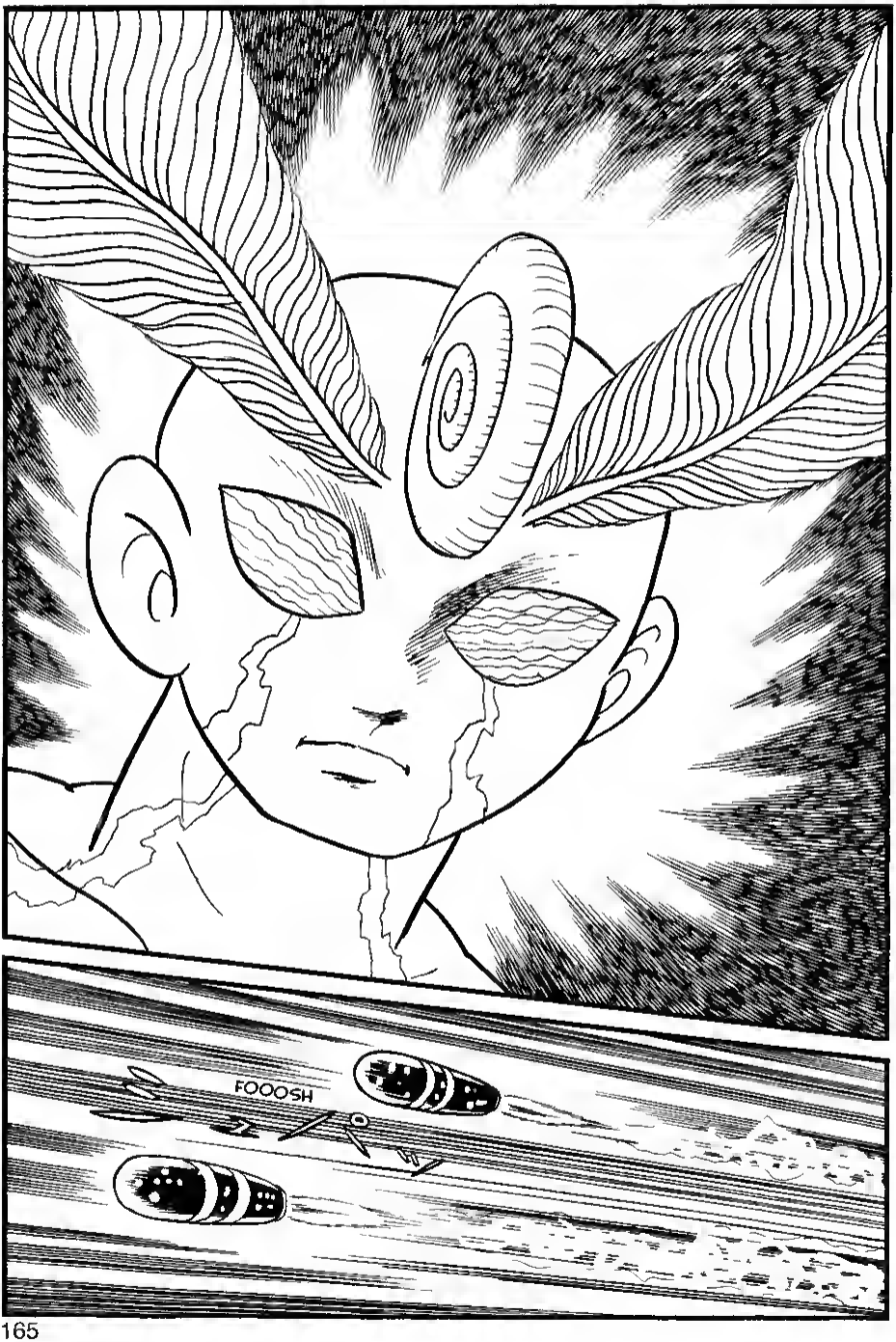

ZU
ZA
ZA
ZUUU

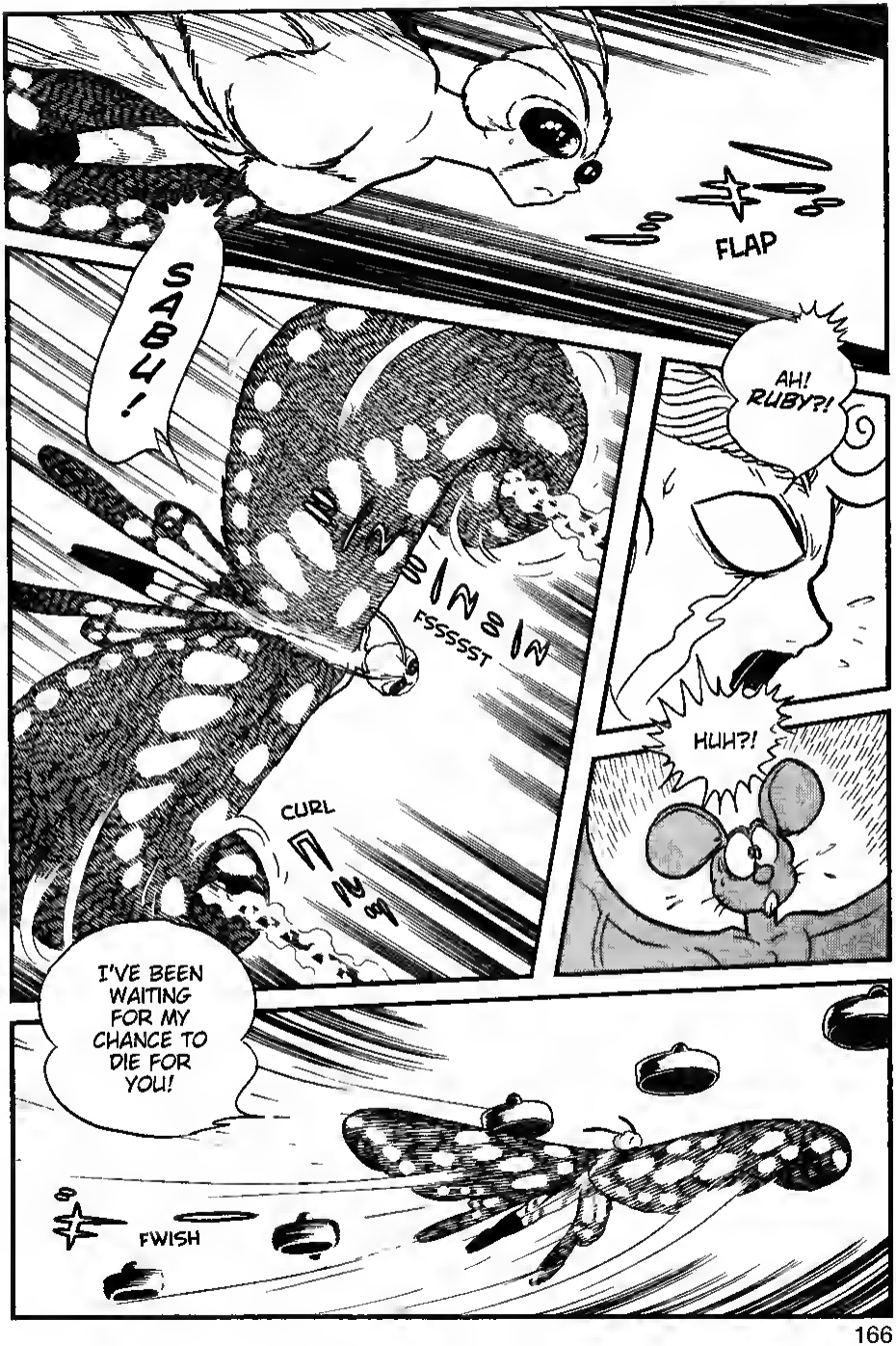

NO, IT'S BEHIND US!
ZAAA
NAP
MM?
IT DOVE UNDER-GROUND!
SHHHH
MAYBE IT ESCAPED ?!

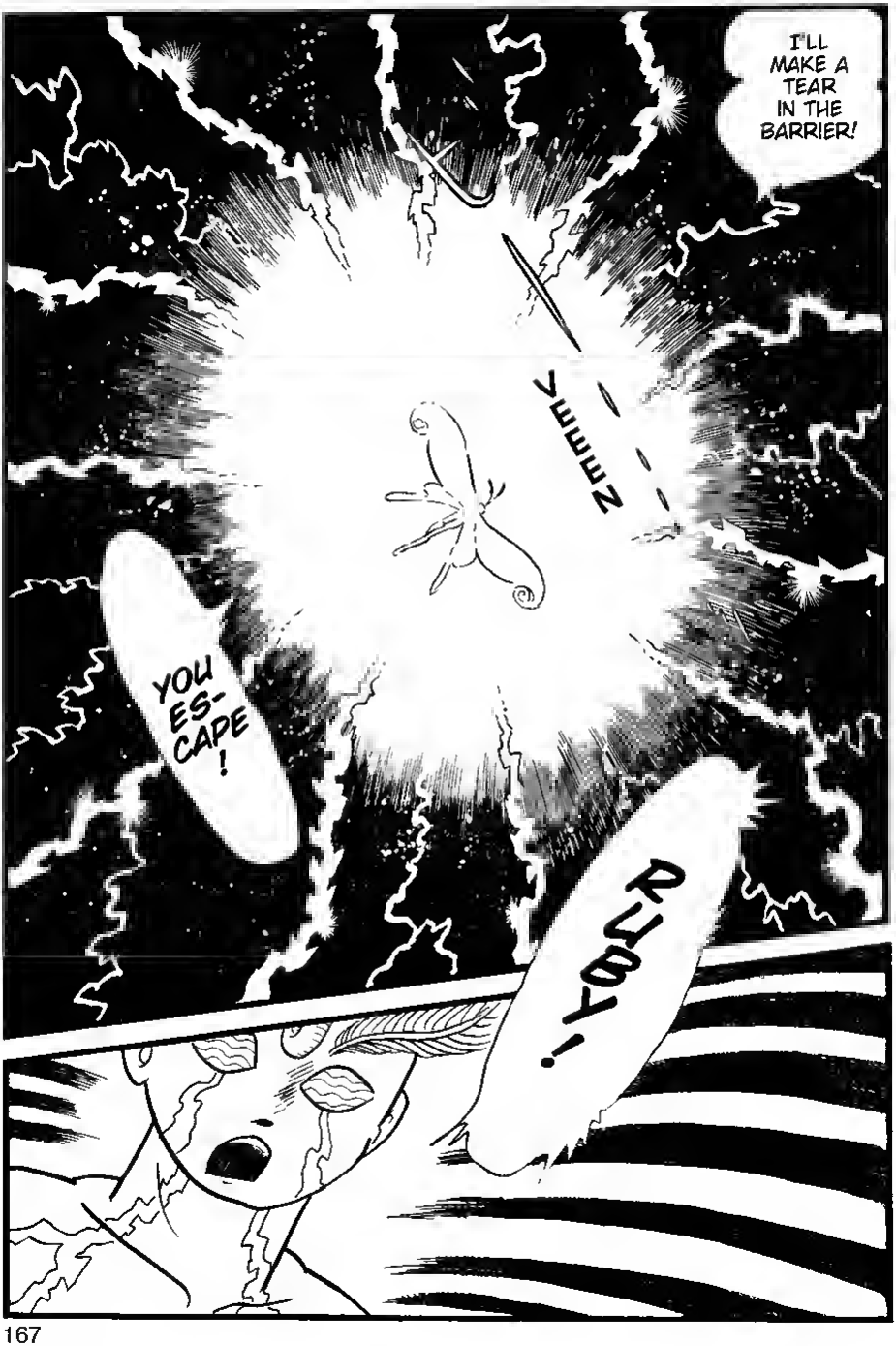
ZU
ZA
ZA
ZA
ZA
WHIZZZZ
HMHM ?!
F-W-I-K
HO-HM ...


DAMN! THEY FORMED A PSYCHO BARRIER RING!
THIS STOPS OUR TELEKINESIS IN ITS TRACKS! I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE CAN DO, OTHER THAN HOVER HERE!


POP
CHIK
NOOOOO!

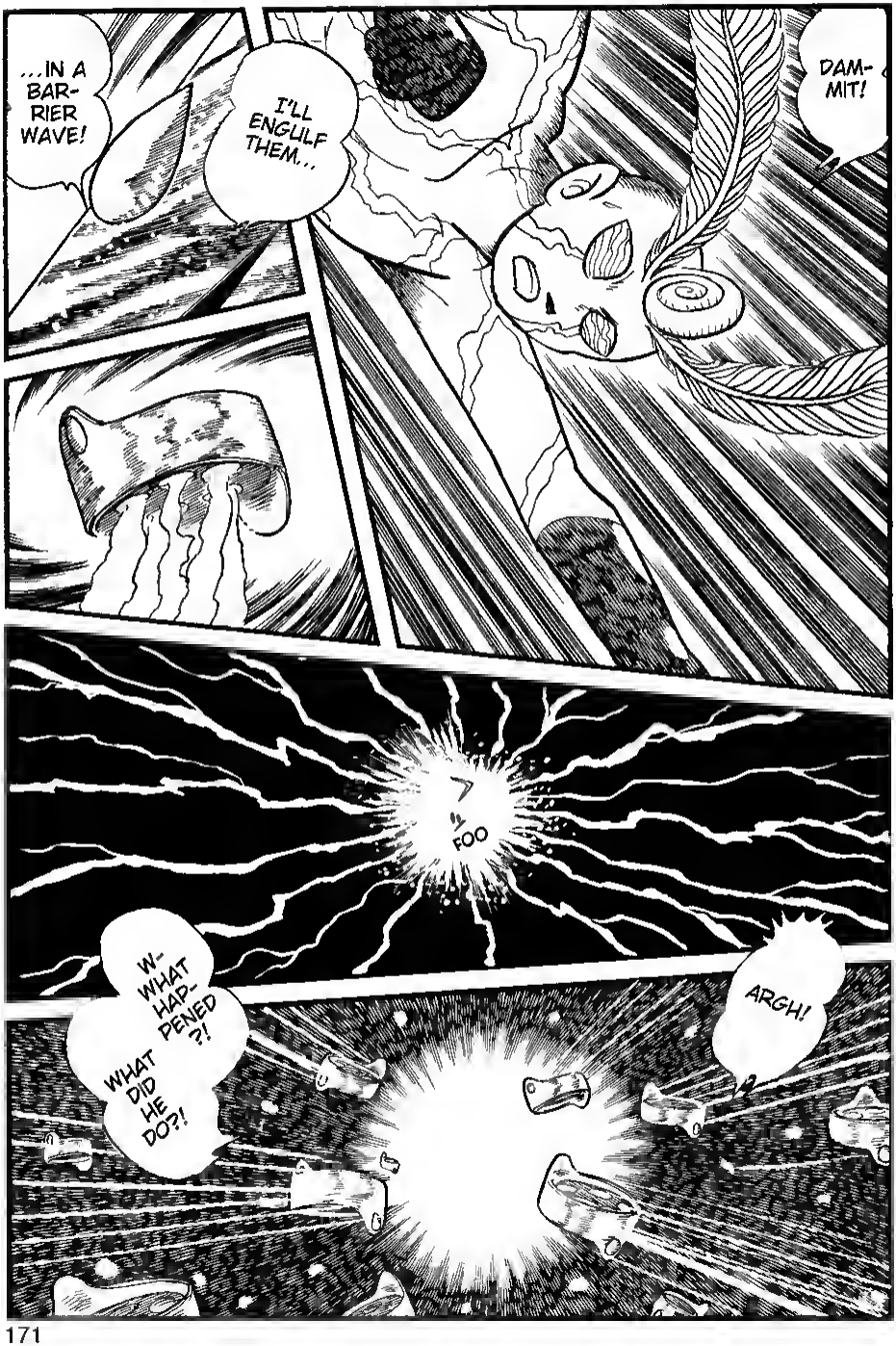

FOOOSH

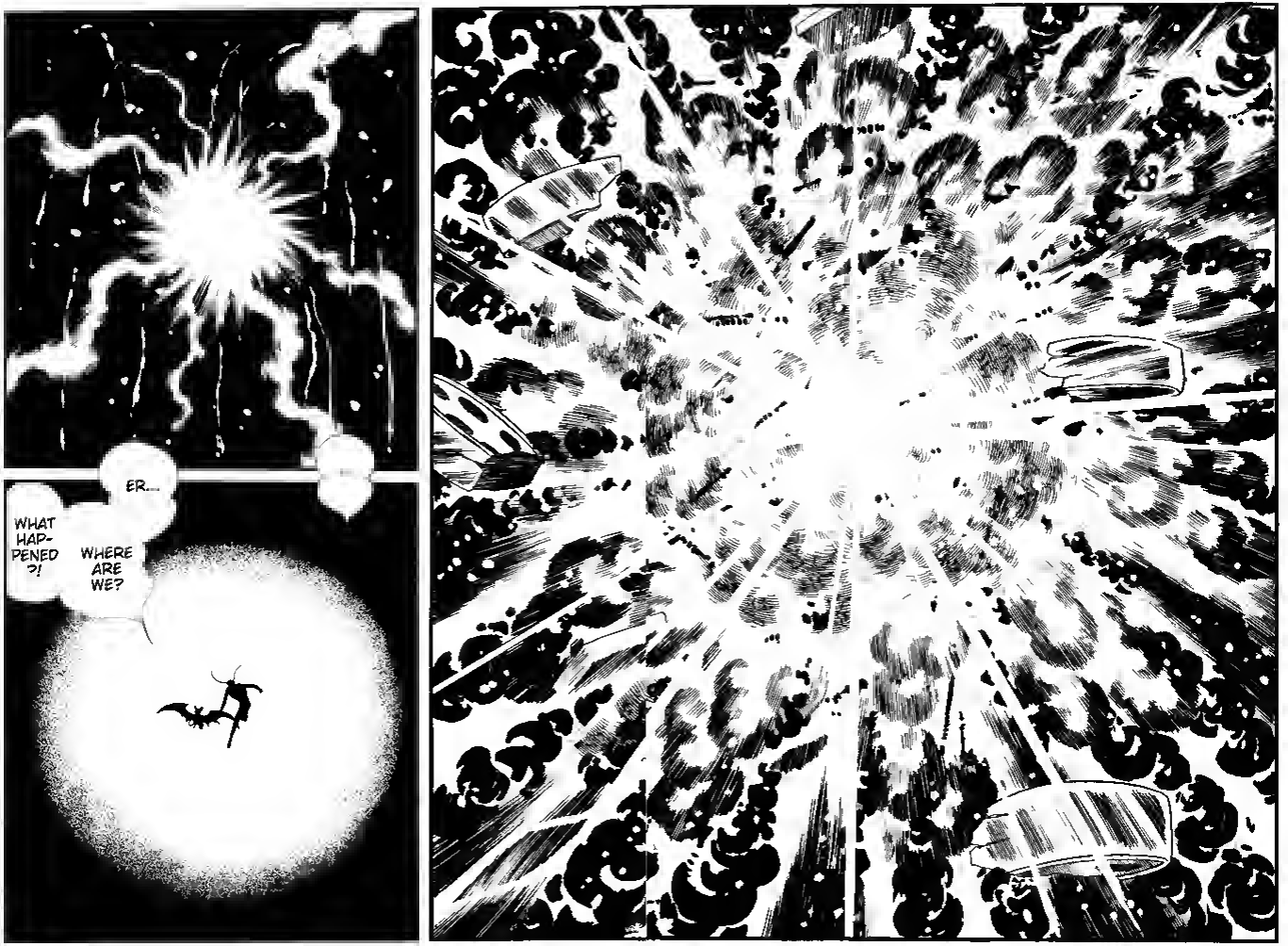

FLAP
SABU!
AH! RUBY?!
FSSSST
HUH?!
CURL
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR MY CHANCE TO DIE FOR YOU!
FWISH

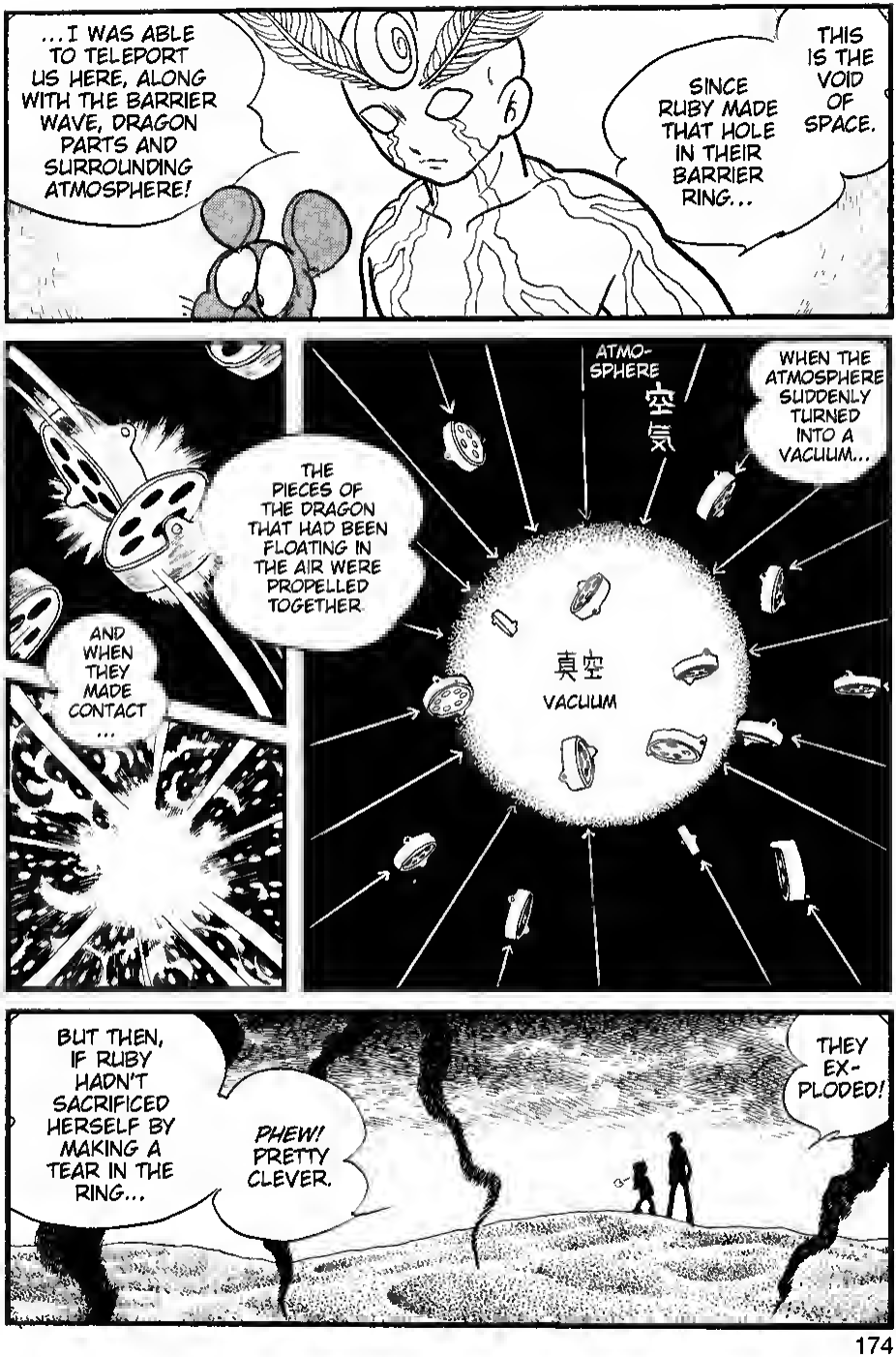

I'LL MAKE A TEAR IN THE BARRIER!
ZNNNNN
YOU ES-CAPE!
RUBY!

ZZZZT
ZZZZT
ZZZZT
BAWHOOOM
AAAA-AAH!

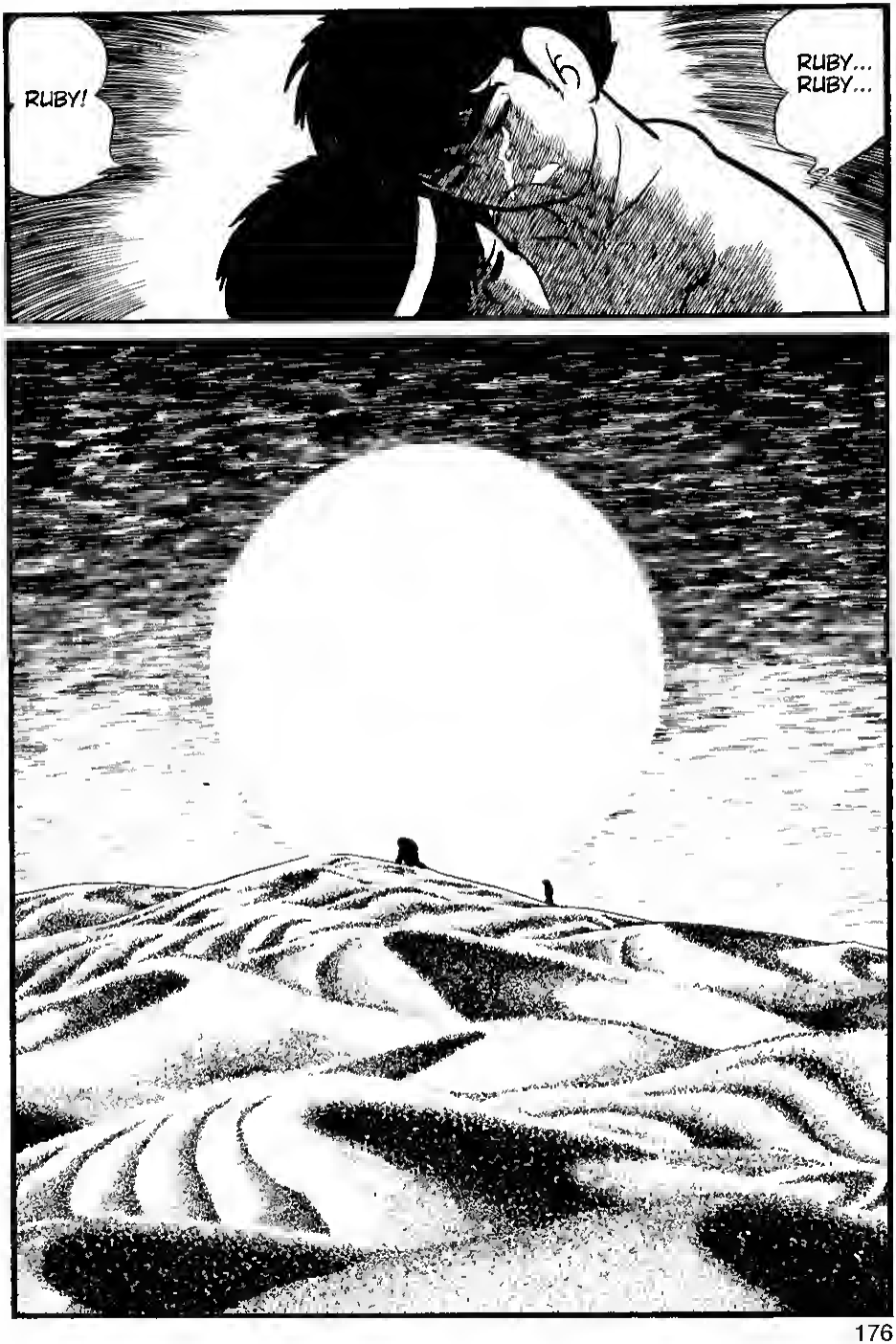
RUBY!
FWISH
BA-DOOOM
WHINNN
MM?!
W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
PIECES... RETURN TO DRAGON FORM!

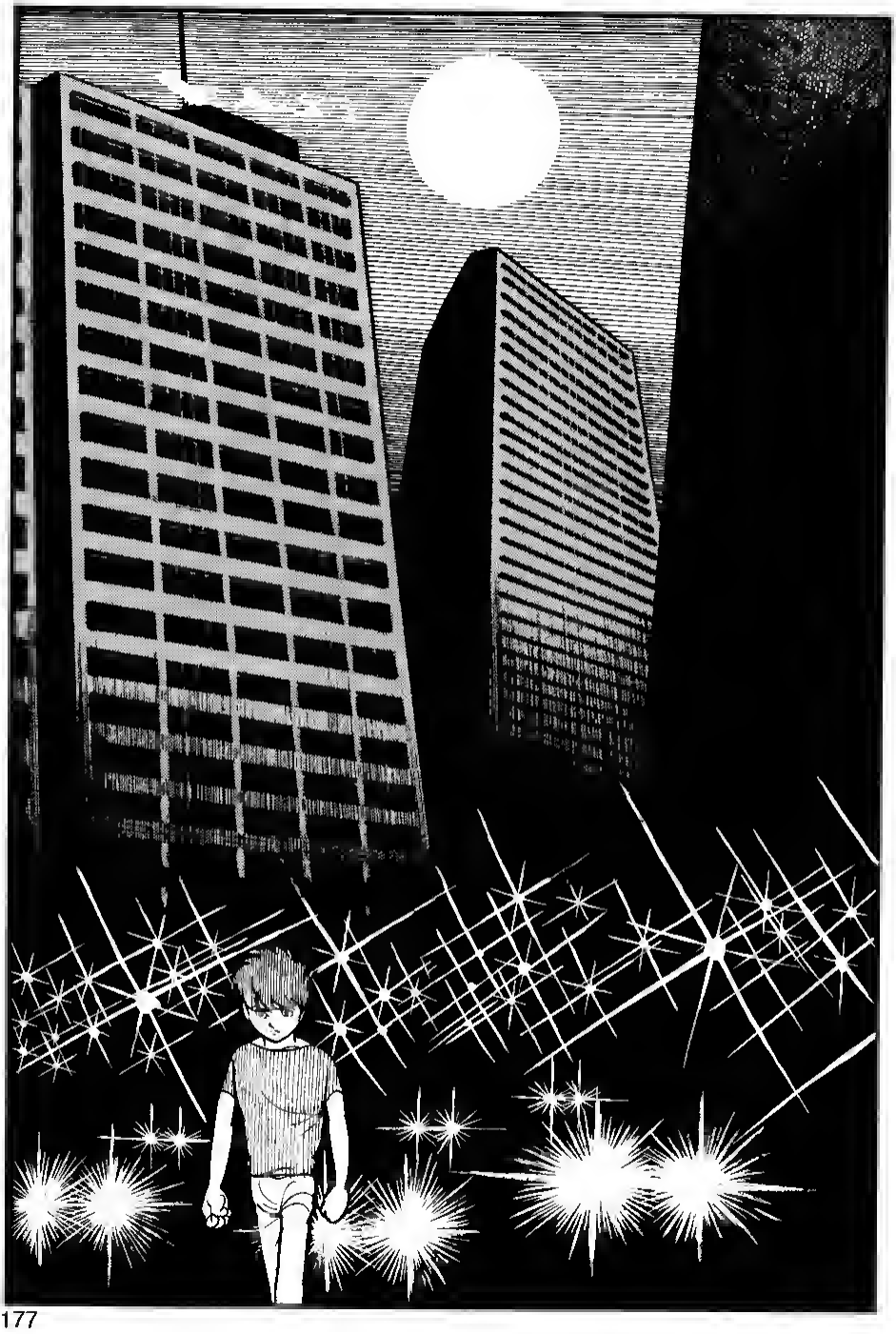

...IN A BAR-RIER WAVE!
I'LL ENGULF THEM...
DAM-MIT!
FOO
W-WHAT HAP-PENED?!
WHAT DID HE DO?!
ARGH!

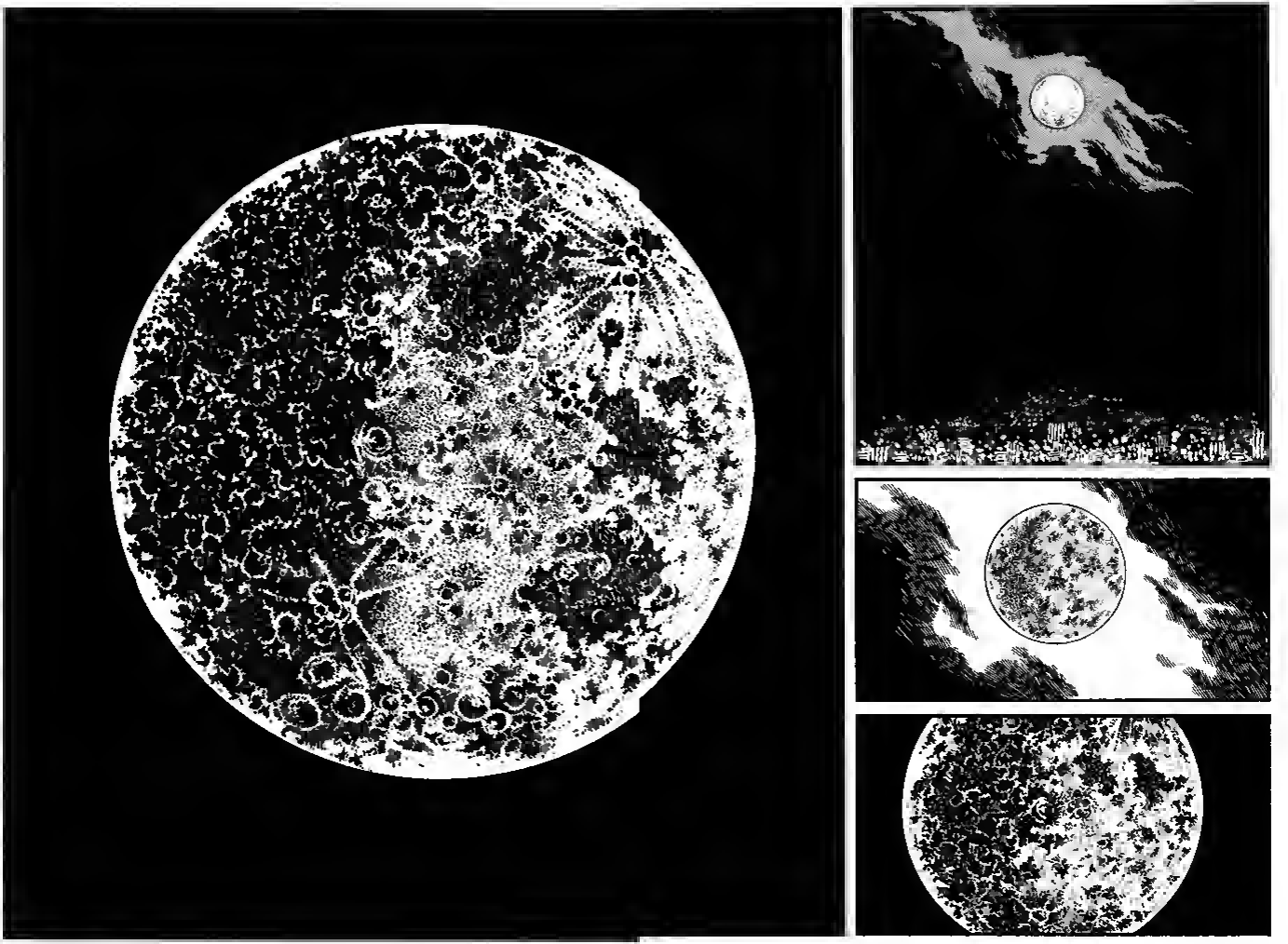

ER...
WHAT HAP-PENED ?!
WHERE ARE WE?

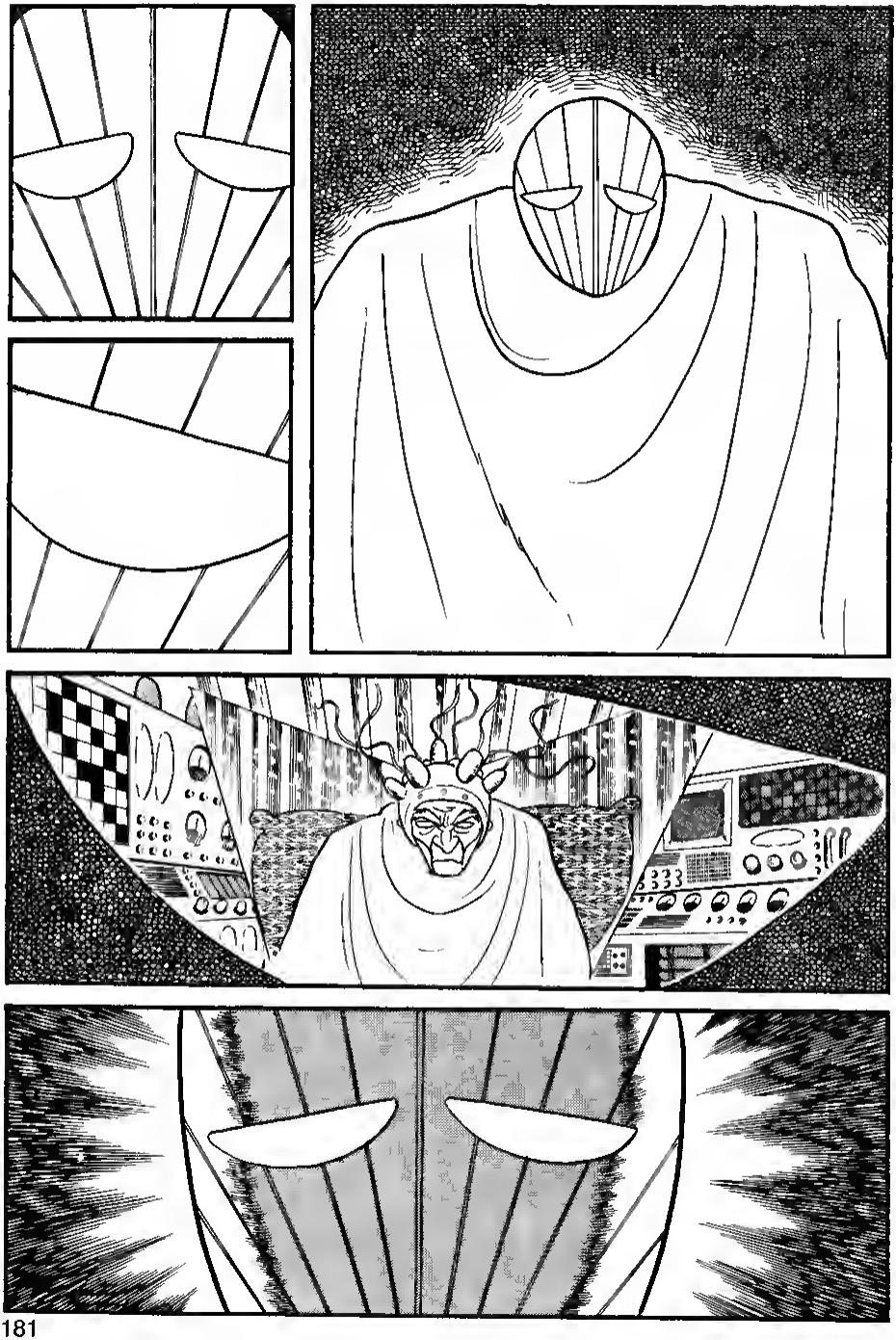

...I WAS ABLE TO TELEPORT US HERE, ALONG WITH THE BARRIER WAVE, DRAGON PARTS AND SURROUNDING ATMOSPHERE!
SINCE RUBY MADE THAT HOLE IN THEIR BARRIER RING...
THIS IS THE VOID OF SPACE.
THE PIECES OF THE DRAGON THAT HAD BEEN FLOATING IN THE AIR WERE PROPELLED TOGETHER.
AND WHEN THEY MADE CONTACT ...
ATMO-SPHERE
空気
WHEN THE ATMOSPHERE SUDDENLY TURNED INTO A VACUUM...
真空
VACUUM
BUT THEN, IF RUBY HADN'T SACRIFICED HERSELF BY MAKING A TEAR IN THE RING...
PHEW! PRETTY CLEVER.
THEY EX-PLODED!

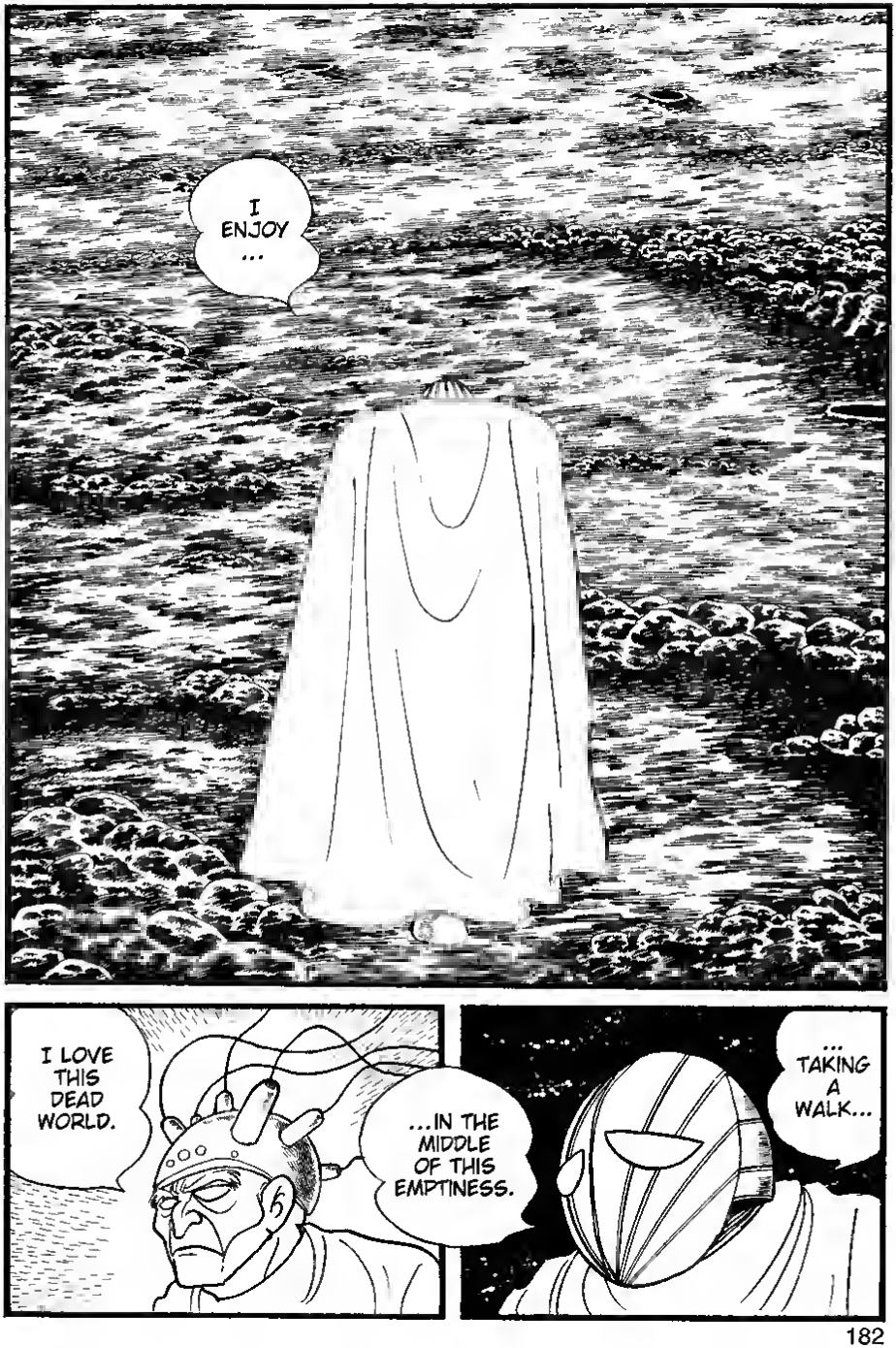
...
MAYBE BLOWN TO SMITHEREENS BY DRAGON MISSILES.
...WE'D STILL HAVE BEEN TRAPPED ...
RUBY!
SNIFF
...

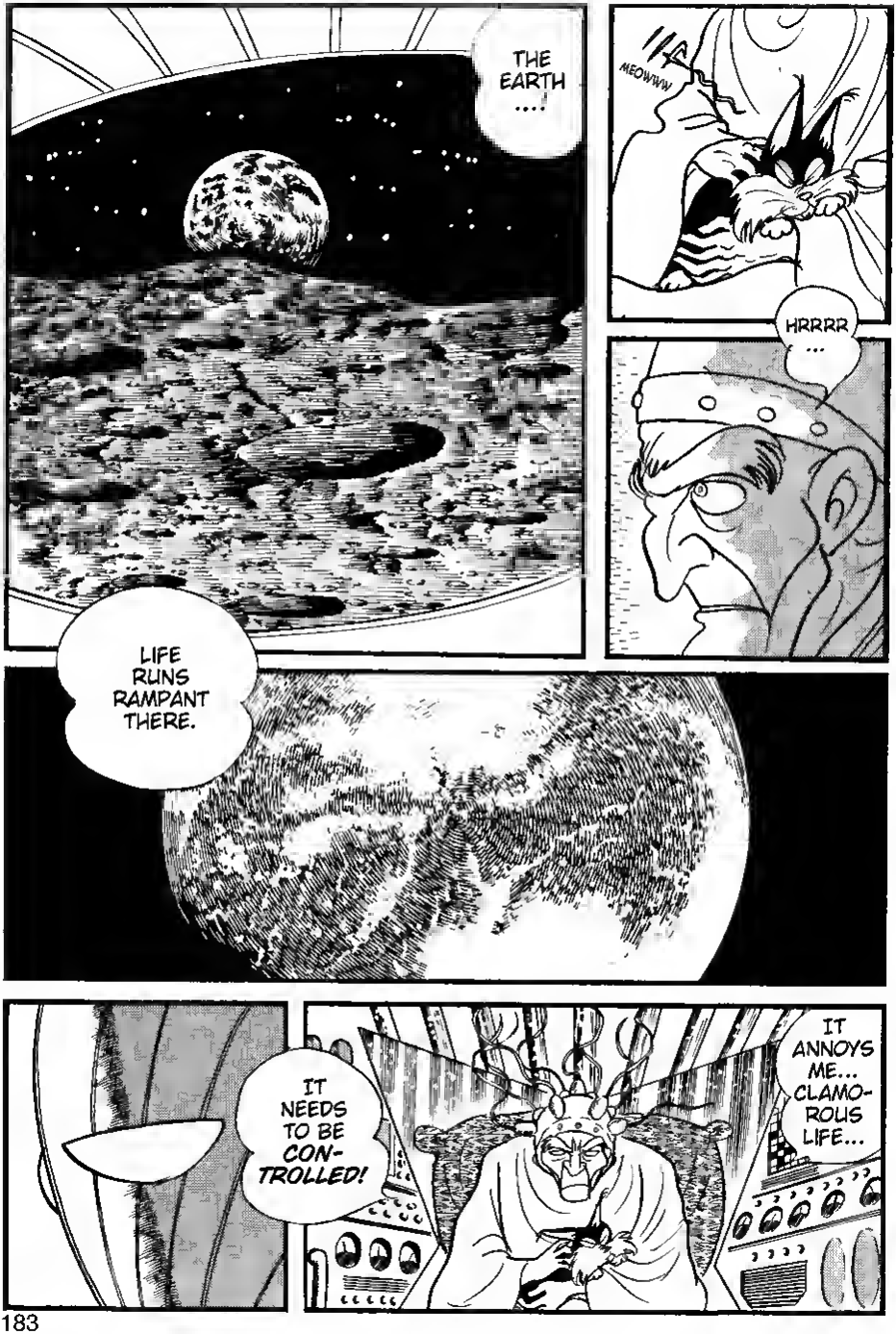

RUBY!
RUBY...
RUBY...





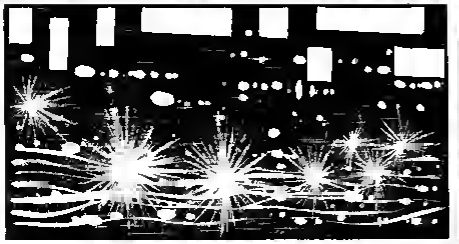



I ENJOY ...
I LOVE THIS DEAD WORLD.
...IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS EMPTINESS.
... TAKING A WALK...


THE EARTH ....!
MEOWWW
HRRRR ...
LIFE RUNS RAMPANT THERE.
IT NEEDS TO BE CON-TROLLED!
IT ANNOYS ME... CLAMO-ROUS LIFE...

...UNDER JUST ONE MIND!
IT NEEDS TO BE ARRANGED! IT NEEDS TO BE SUPER-VISED...
AND THE ONLY ONES WHO WILL HAVE A RIGHT TO LIVE THERE...
YES, WITH JUST ONE GOVERNING THOUGHT...IT WILL BECOME A QUIET PLANET!
...WILL BE GIVEN THAT RIGHT BY ME!
THEY WILL BECOME MY SERVANTS ...
THE CHOSEN ONES...THE NEO-HUMANS!

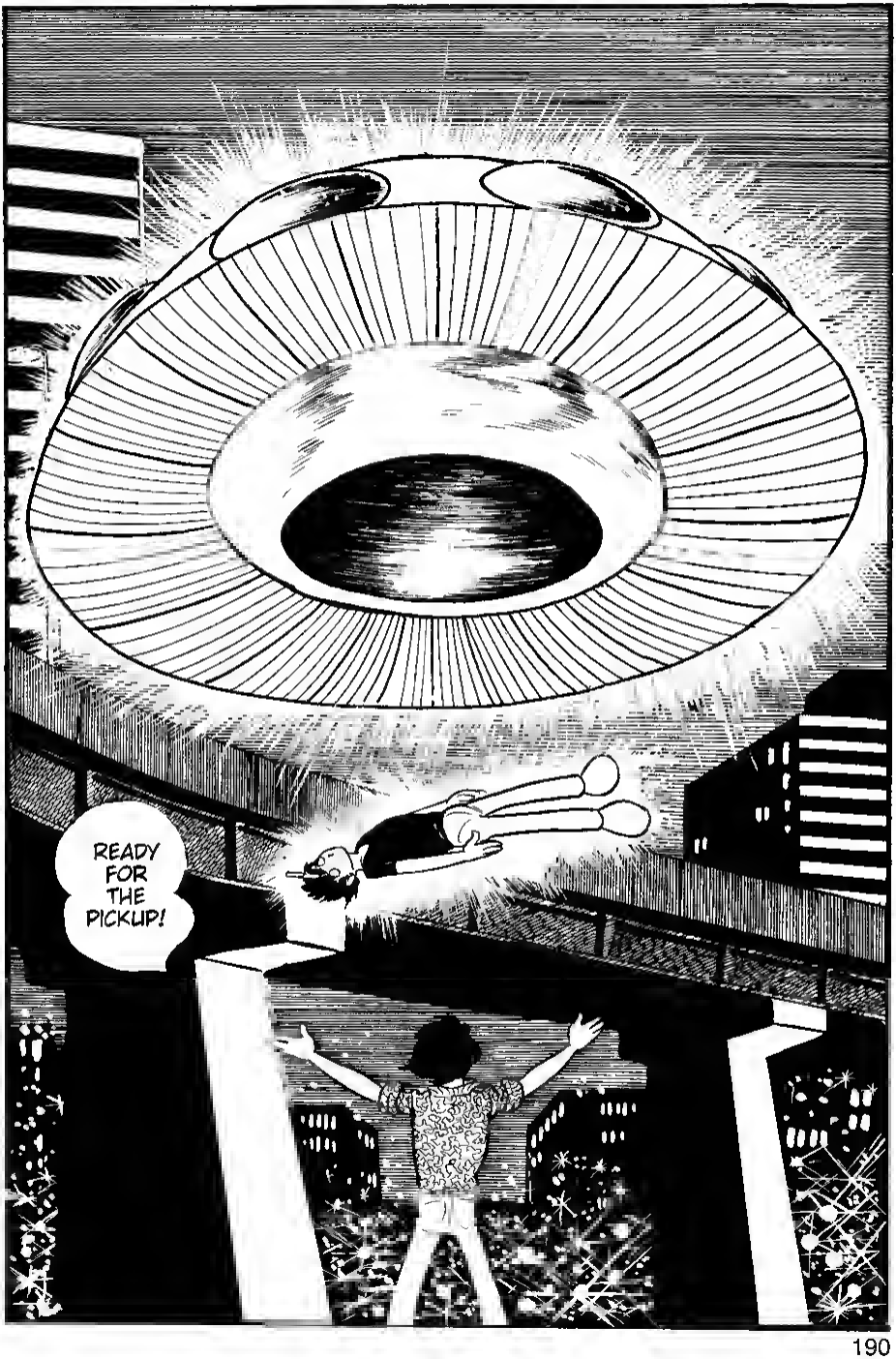
IN THE FUTURE, THAT WORLD SHALL HAVE ONLY ONE COUNTRY ...
AND IT WILL BE THE NEO-HUMAN EMPIRE!



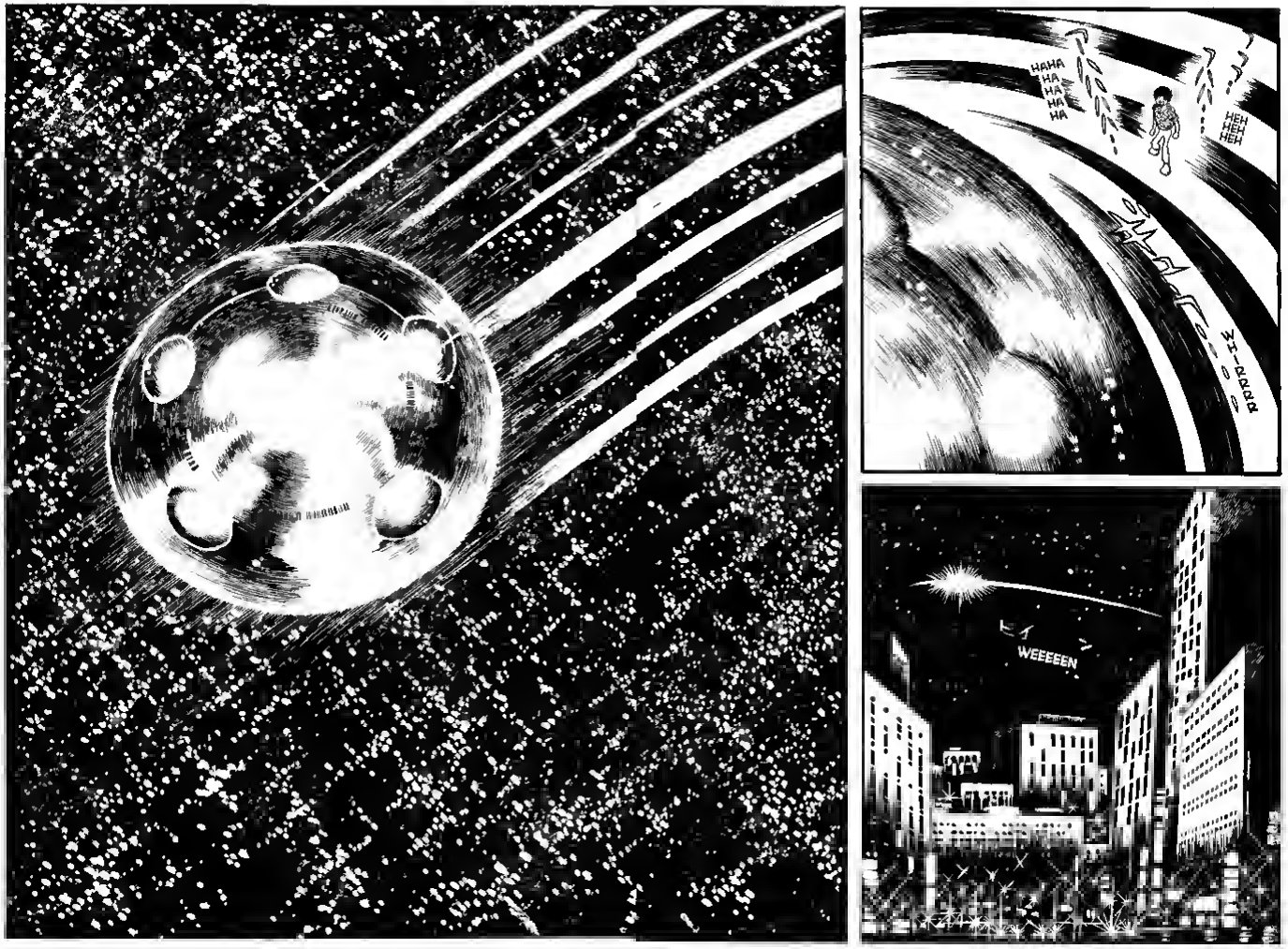
BUT FIRST, MY SUBJECTS MUST LOSE NO TIME IN PURGING THE EARTH OF THAT PESKY SCUM!

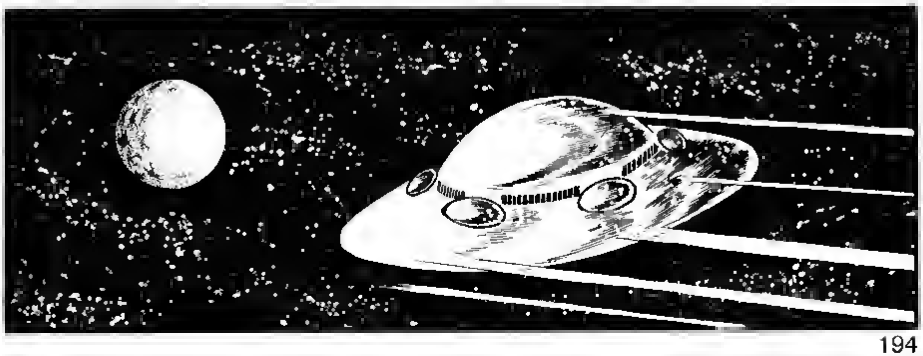
RUBY'S DEAD?!
I'M SORRY.
SHE WAS STARVED FOR AFFECTION 'CAUSE OF HER UP-BRINGING.
YEAH. SHE COULD BE LIKE THAT.
...TO SAVE US.
SHE SACRIFICED HERSELF...
THAT MAKES IT AN EVEN BIGGER LOSS. THE WORLD TO COME IS GONNA NEED LOVE MORE THAN EVER.
SO I'M SURE SHE DIED HAPPY.
SHE WANTED SOMEONE TO LOVE... AND WANTED TO BE LOVED.

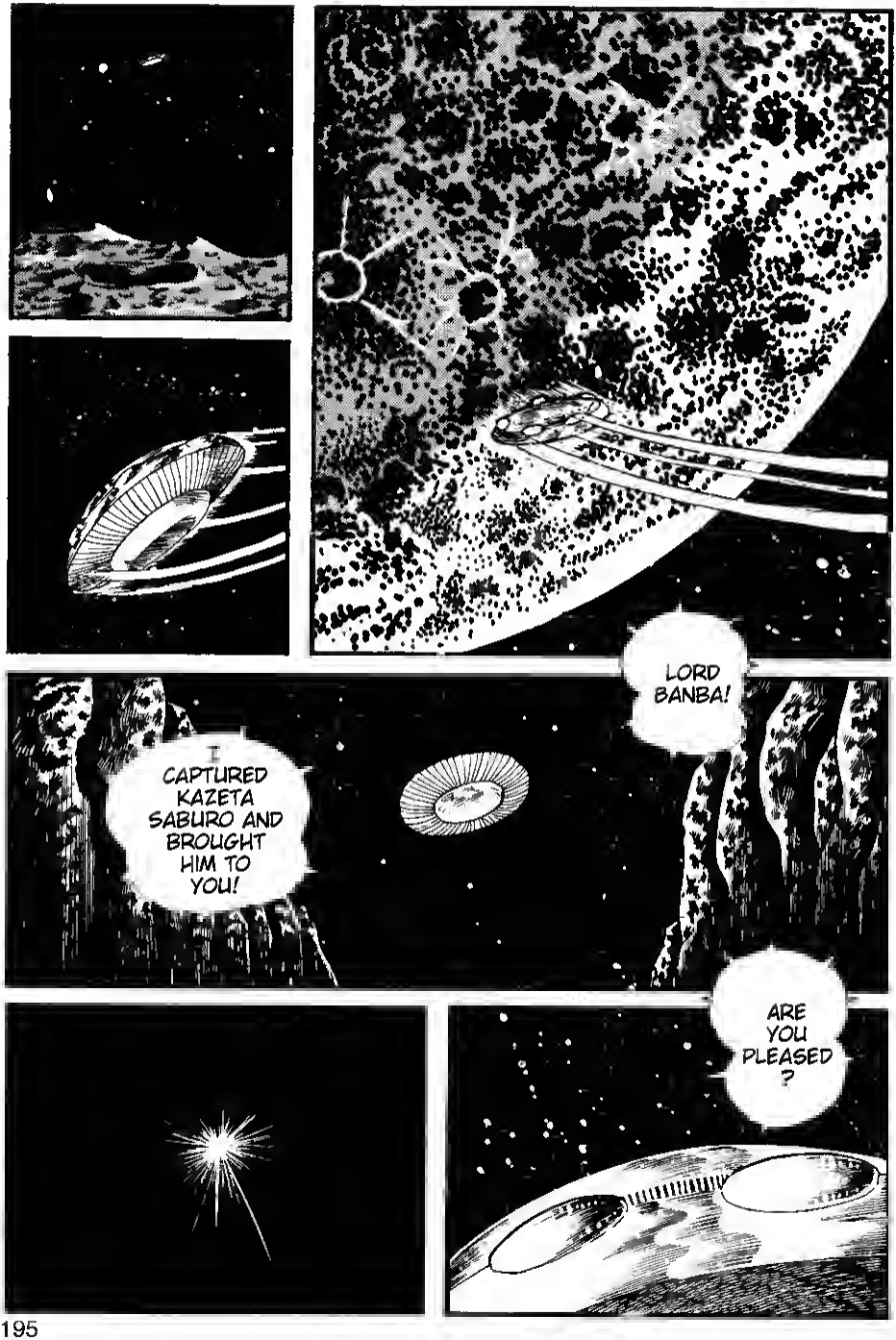
THUK
THAT'S A PSYCHO BARRIER KNIFE!
W-WHY ...?!
IT MAY NOT BE LETHAL, BUT AS LONG AS IT'S STUCK IN YOU...
...YOU CAN'T USE YOUR PSIONICS!

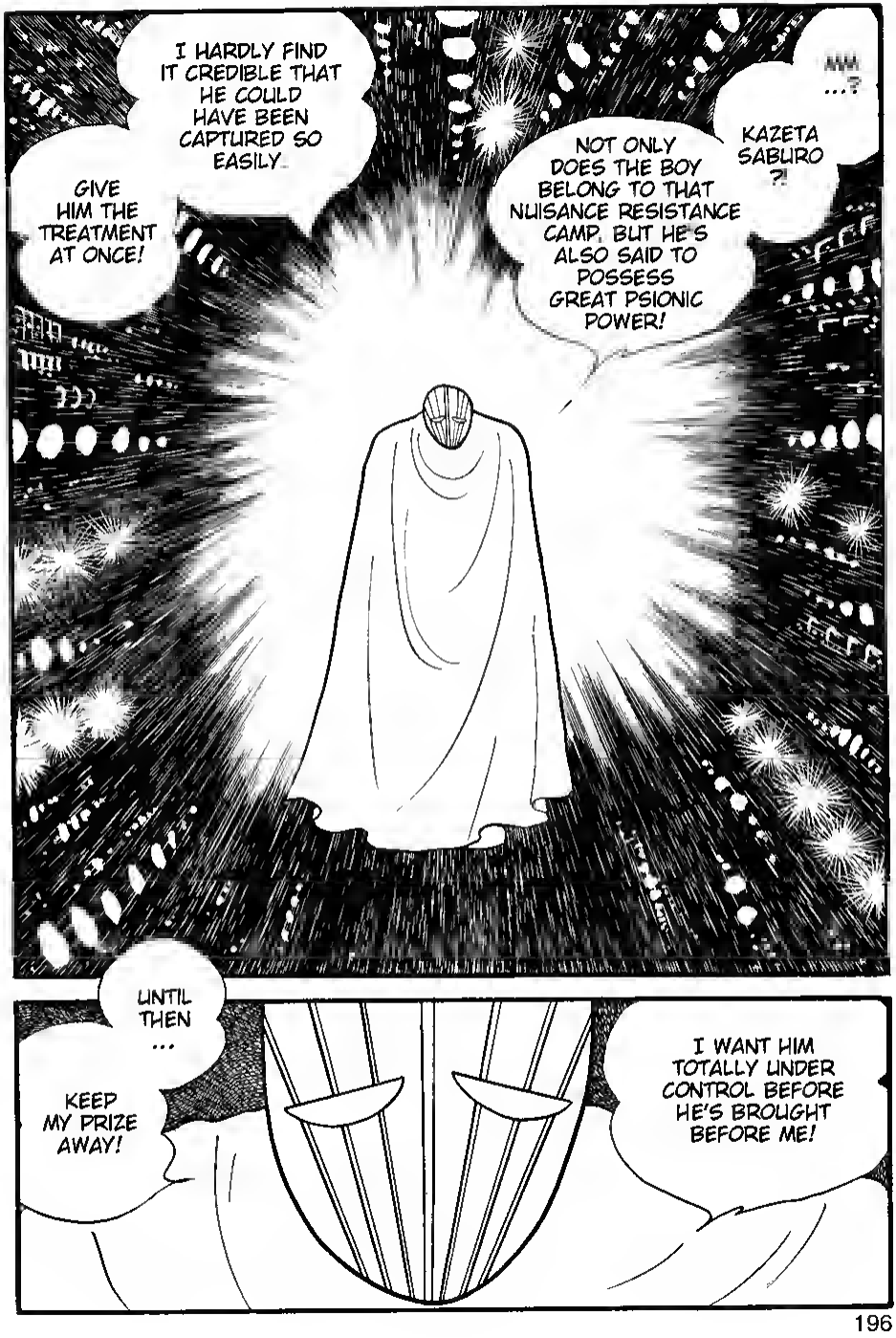

READY FOR THE PICKUP!

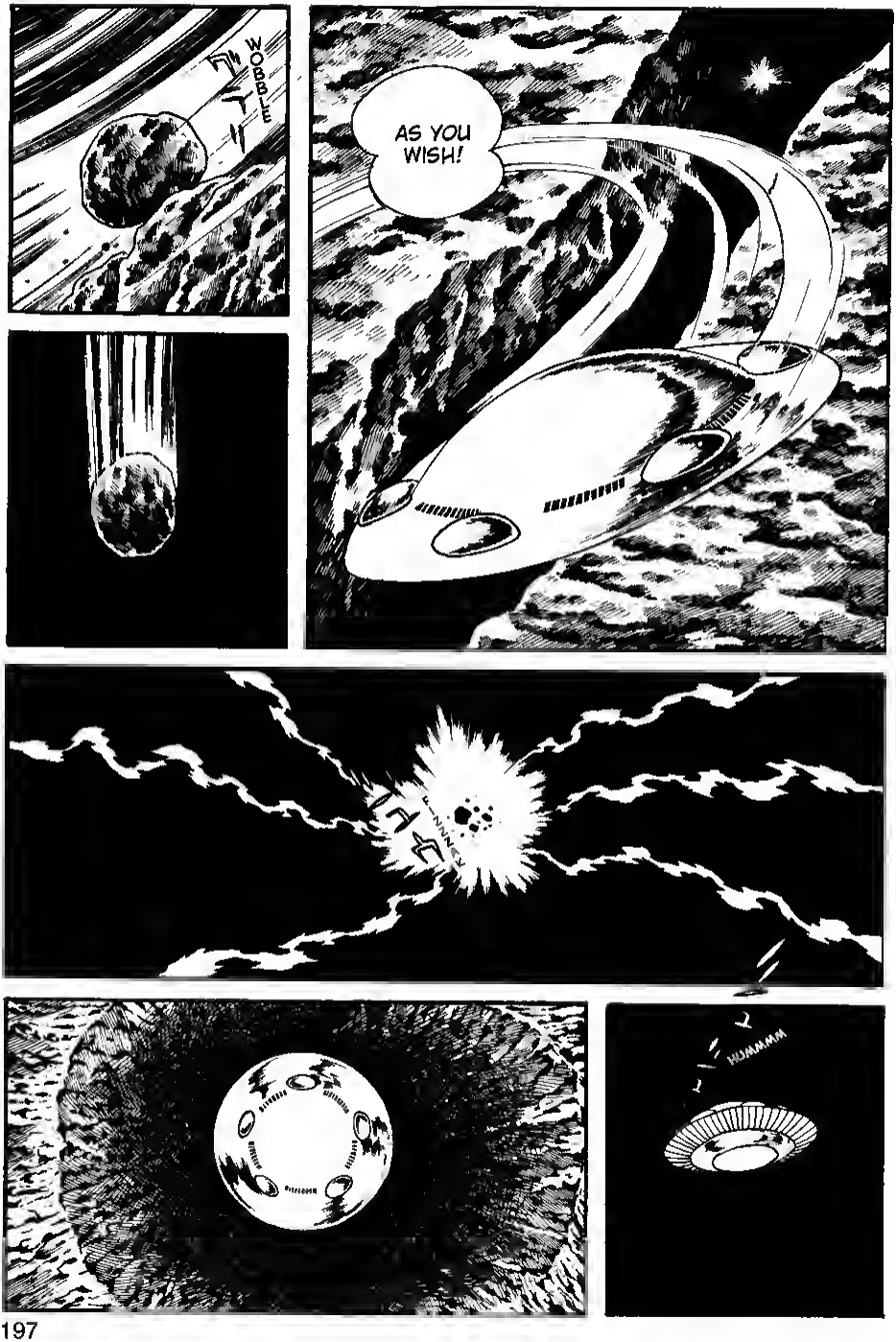
FLY US TO LORD BANBA!
GO AHEAD !
HEH HEH HEH!
FWASH

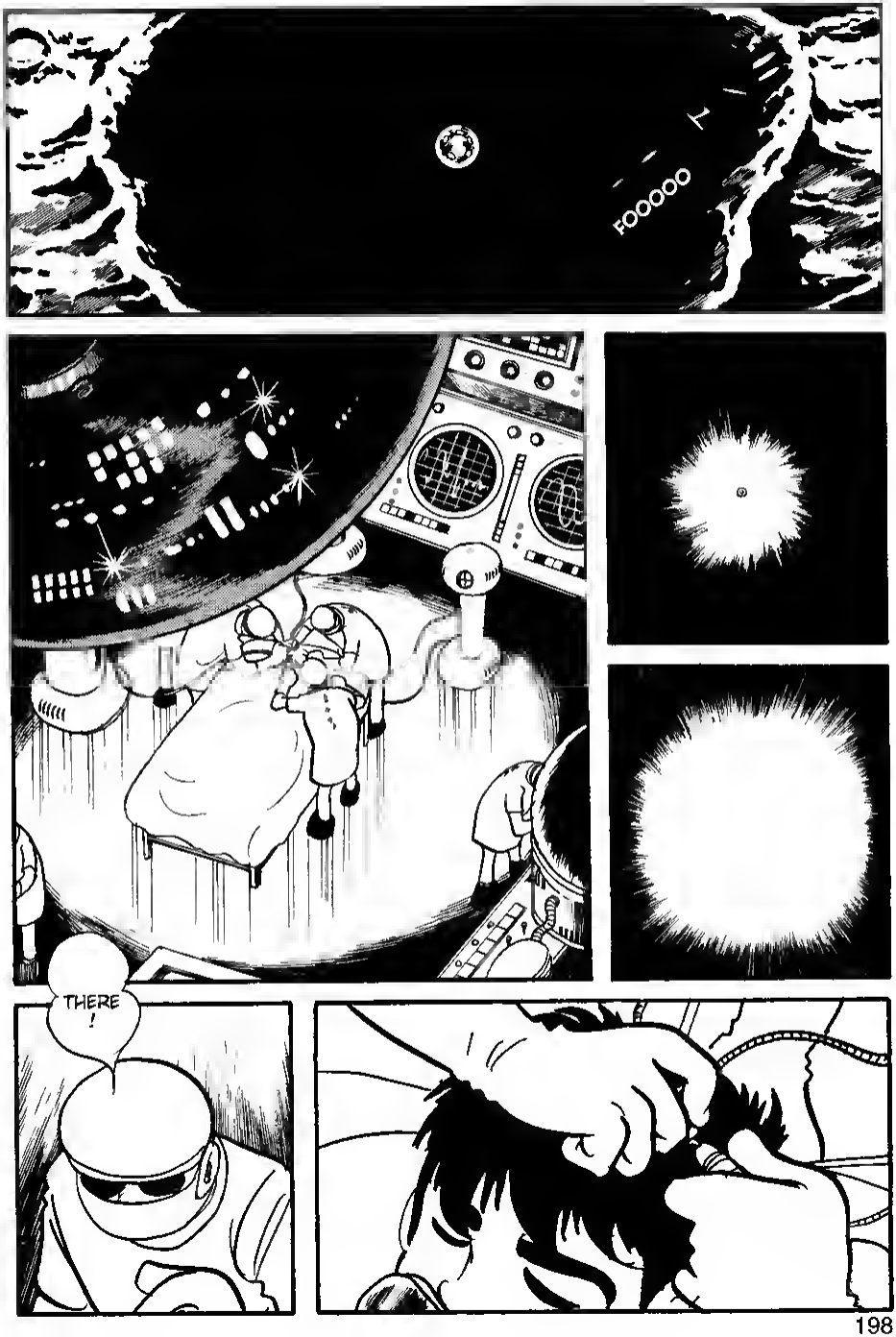

HAHA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HEH
HEH
HEH
WEEEEEN



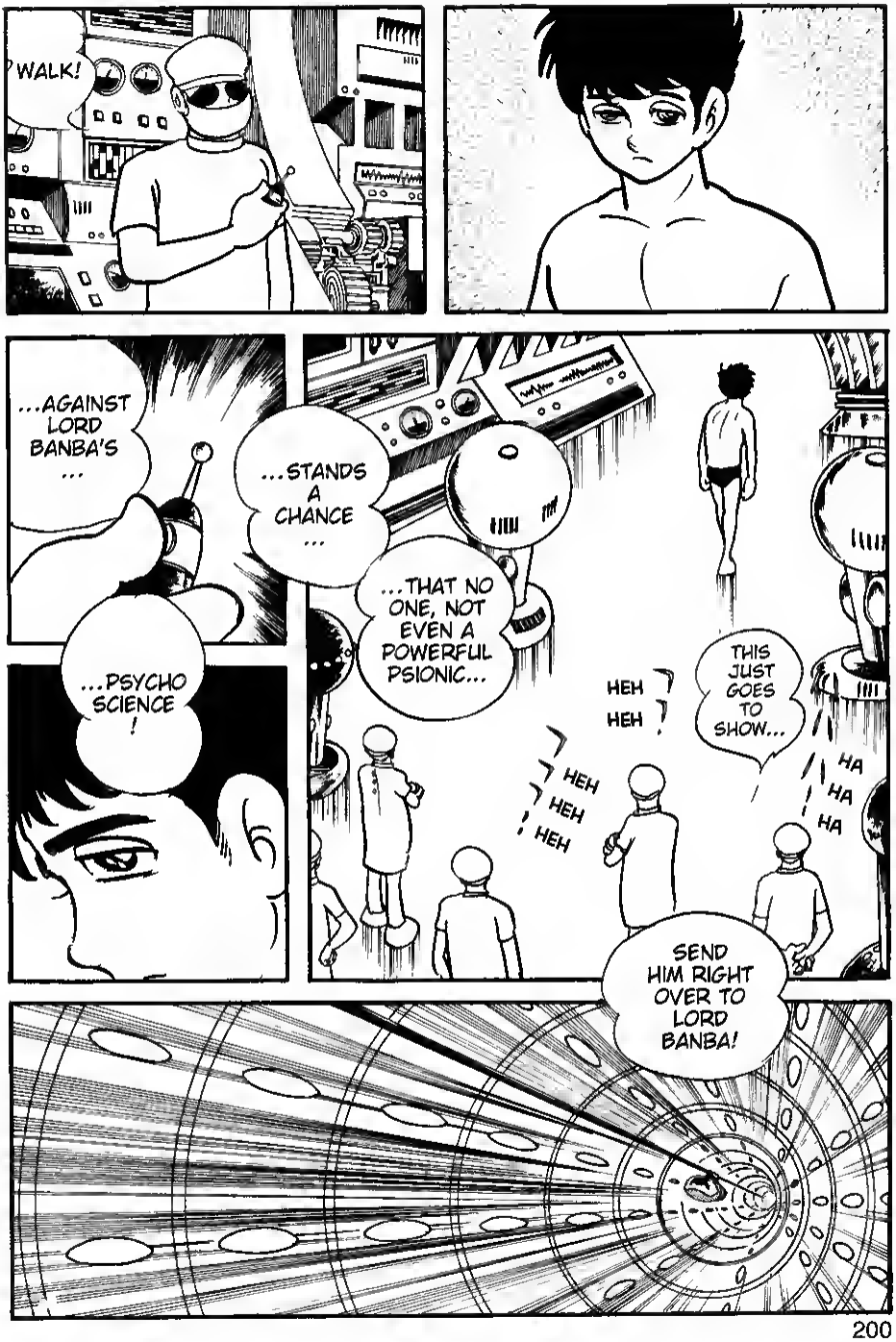

LORD BANBA!
I CAPTURED KAZETA SABURO AND BROUGHT HIM TO YOU!
ARE YOU PLEASED ?

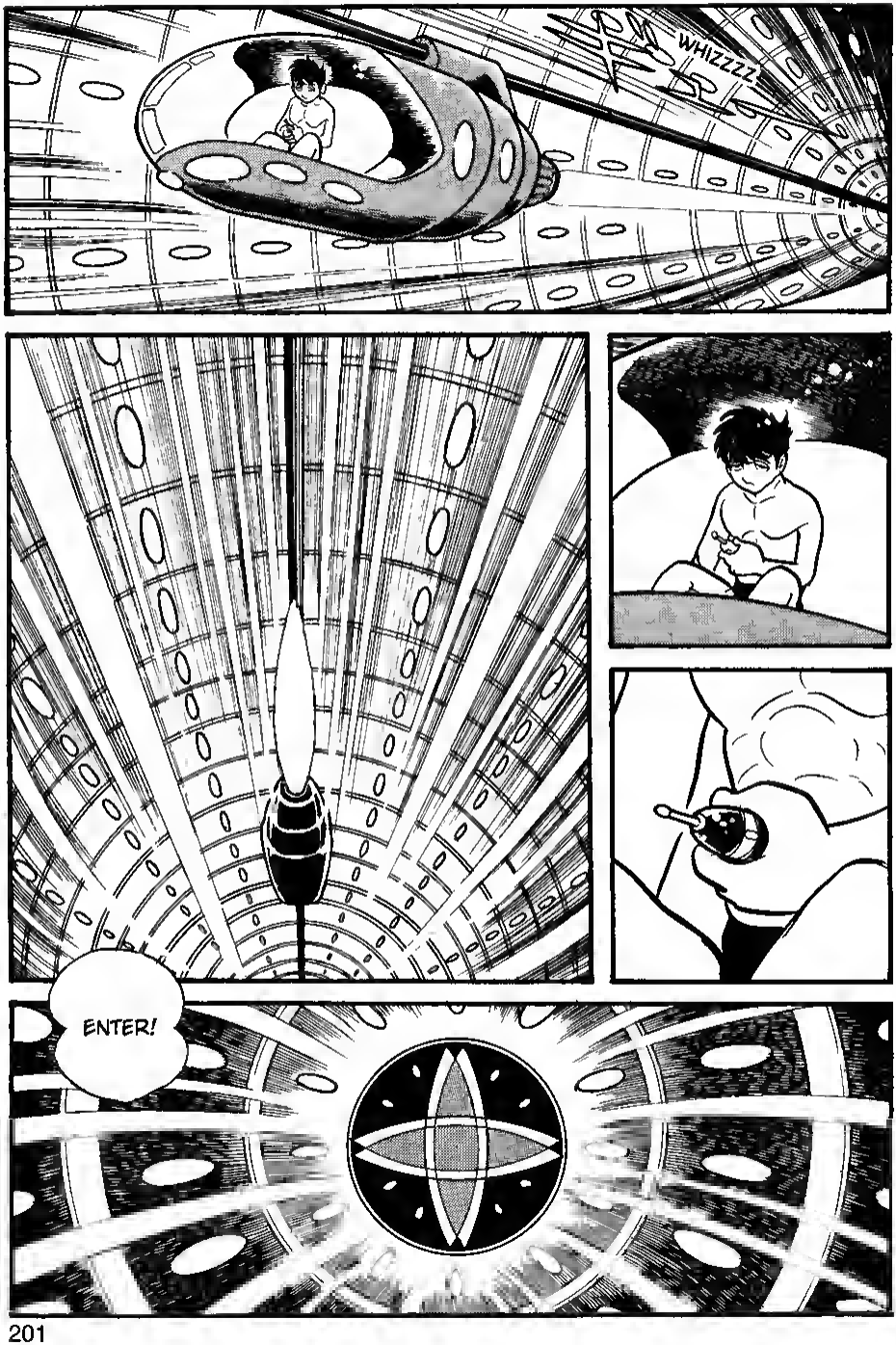

I HARDLY FIND IT CREDIBLE THAT HE COULD HAVE BEEN CAPTURED SO EASILY.
GIVE HIM THE TREATMENT AT ONCE!
NOT ONLY DOES THE BOY BELONG TO THAT NUISANCE RESISTANCE CAMP, BUT HE'S ALSO SAID TO POSSESS GREAT PSIONIC POWER!
KAZETA SABURO ?!
...?
UNTIL THEN ...
KEEP MY PRIZE AWAY!
I WANT HIM TOTALLY UNDER CONTROL BEFORE HE'S BROUGHT BEFORE ME!

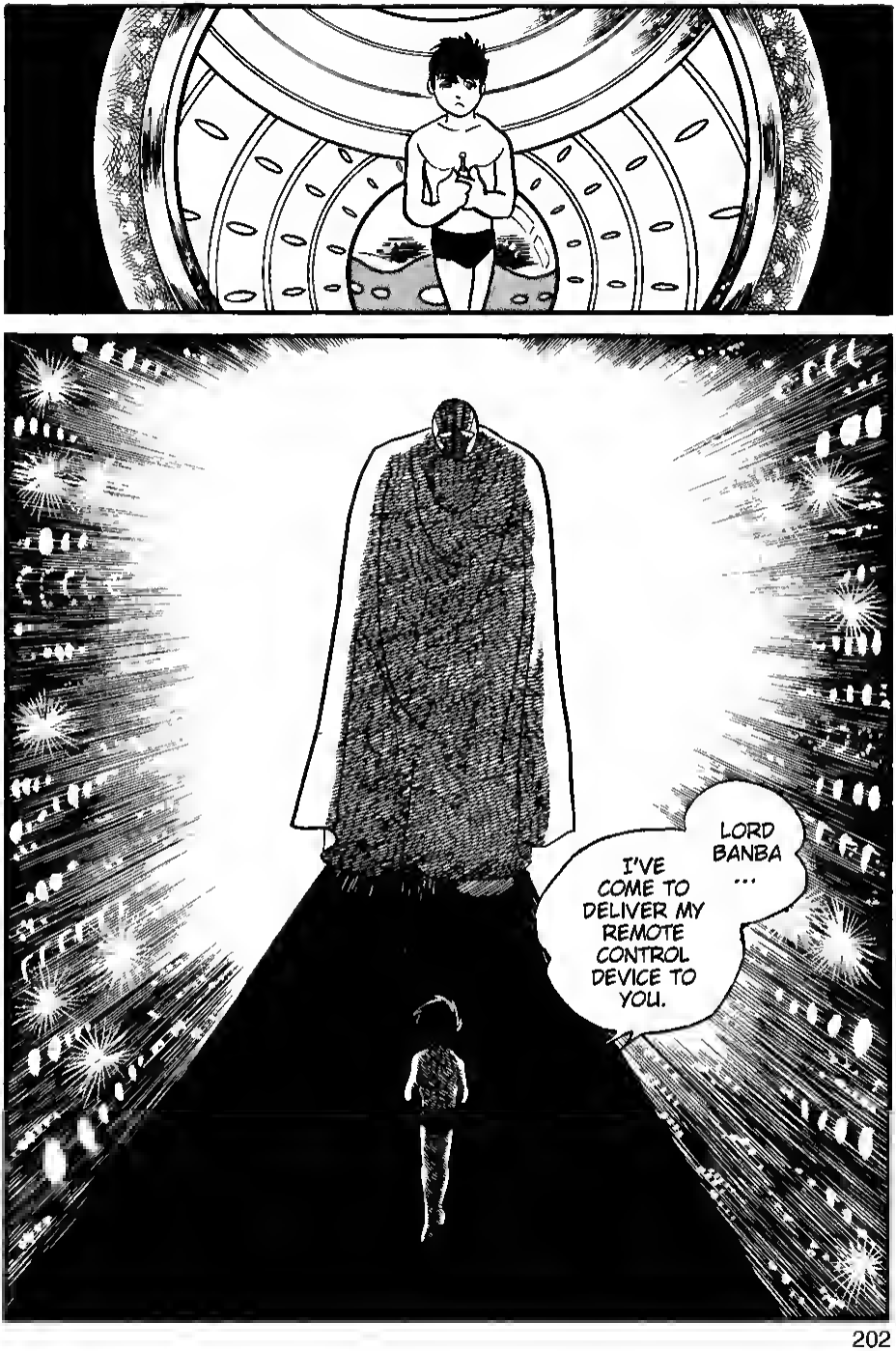

WOBBLE
AS YOU WISH!
ZAP
HUMMMM


FOOOOO
THERE !

NOW THIS BOY IS PRIMED TO BE LORD BANBA'S PUPPET!
PER-FECT!
THAT DOES IT.
OPEN YOUR EYES!
CHIK
SWISH
SIT UP!

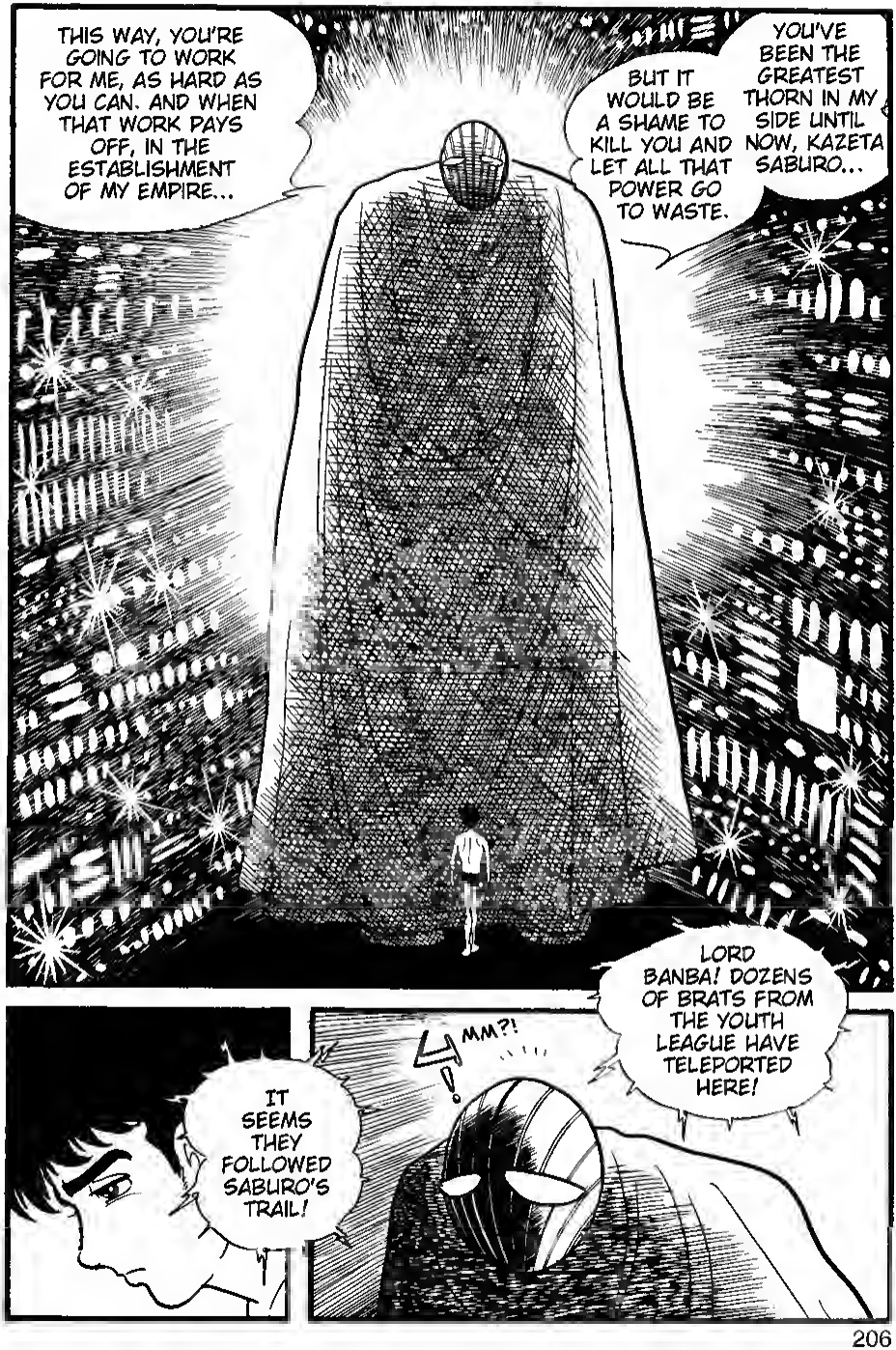

WALK!
...AGAINST LORD BANBA'S ...
...STANDS A CHANCE ...
...THAT NO ONE, NOT EVEN A POWERFUL PSIONIC...
...PSYCHO SCIENCE!
HEH HEH!
HEH HEH HEH!
THIS JUST GOES TO SHOW...
HA HA HA!
SEND HIM RIGHT OVER TO LORD BANBA!


WHIZZZZ
ENTER!


LORD BANBA ...
I'VE COME TO DELIVER MY REMOTE CONTROL DEVICE TO YOU.

ニュッ
SHOOP
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH!

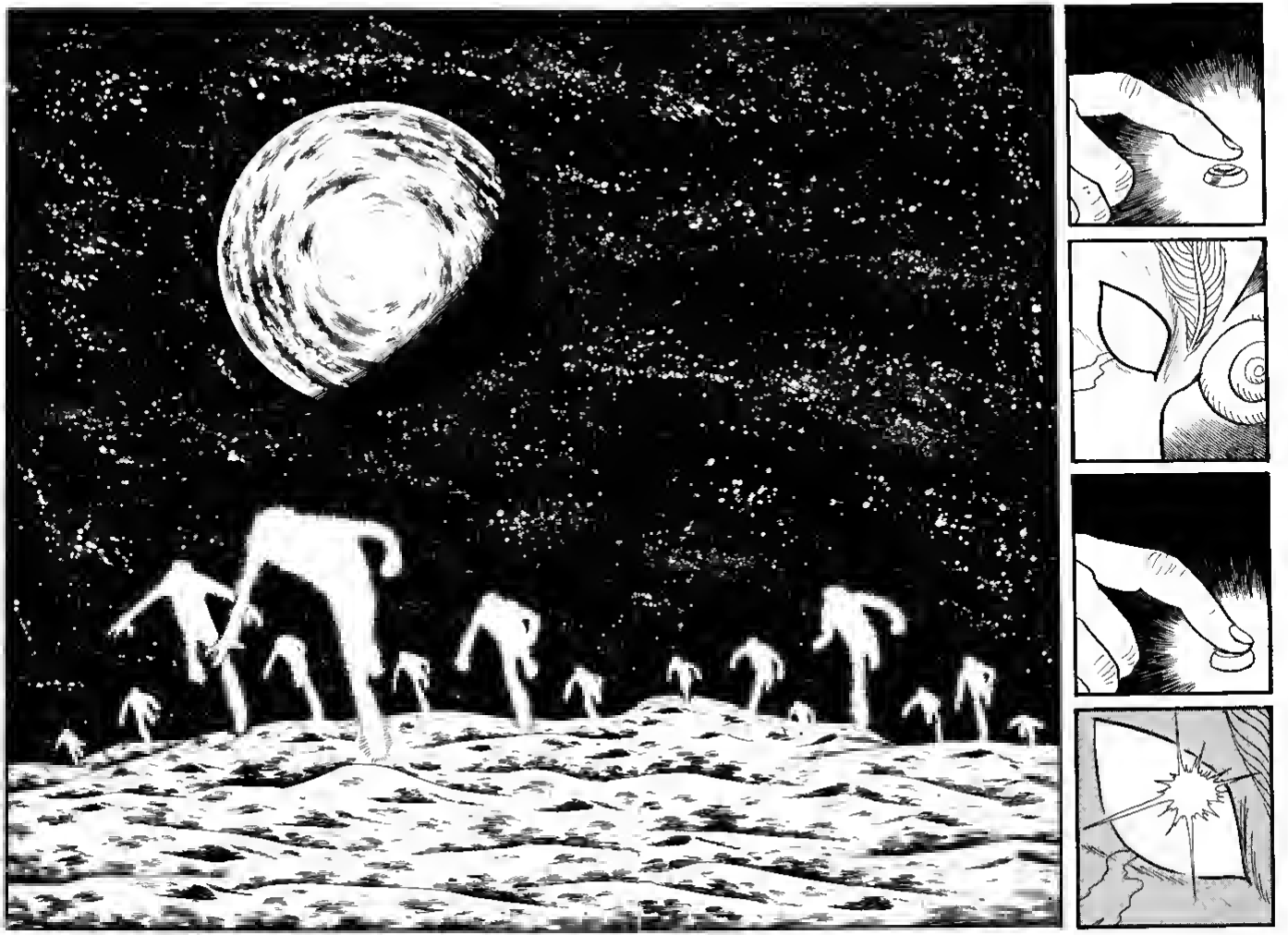
THEN YOU'RE MY OBEDIENT SLAVE.
FWISH
I SEE, I SEE. VERY GOOD.
NOT ONLY DOES THIS DEVICE CONTROL THE WILL, BUT IT CAN DOUBLE AS A TRIGGER THAT CAN ELIMINATE THE SUBJECT IN CASE HE OUTLIVES HIS USEFULNESS!
YOU KNOW, I INVENTED THIS DEVICE.
OH, IT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD TO WIPE OUT ANY LITTLE FISH THAT PROVE DIFFICULT TO CONTROL...
...BUT ONCE IN A WHILE, THERE ARE PEOPLE THAT I NEED, DESPITE THEIR OBSTINACY.
THUS, I CAME UP WITH THE EXPLOSIVE FUNCTION OF THE REMOTE.
NATURALLY, I PLACE YOU IN THE LATTER GROUP OF PEOPLE.

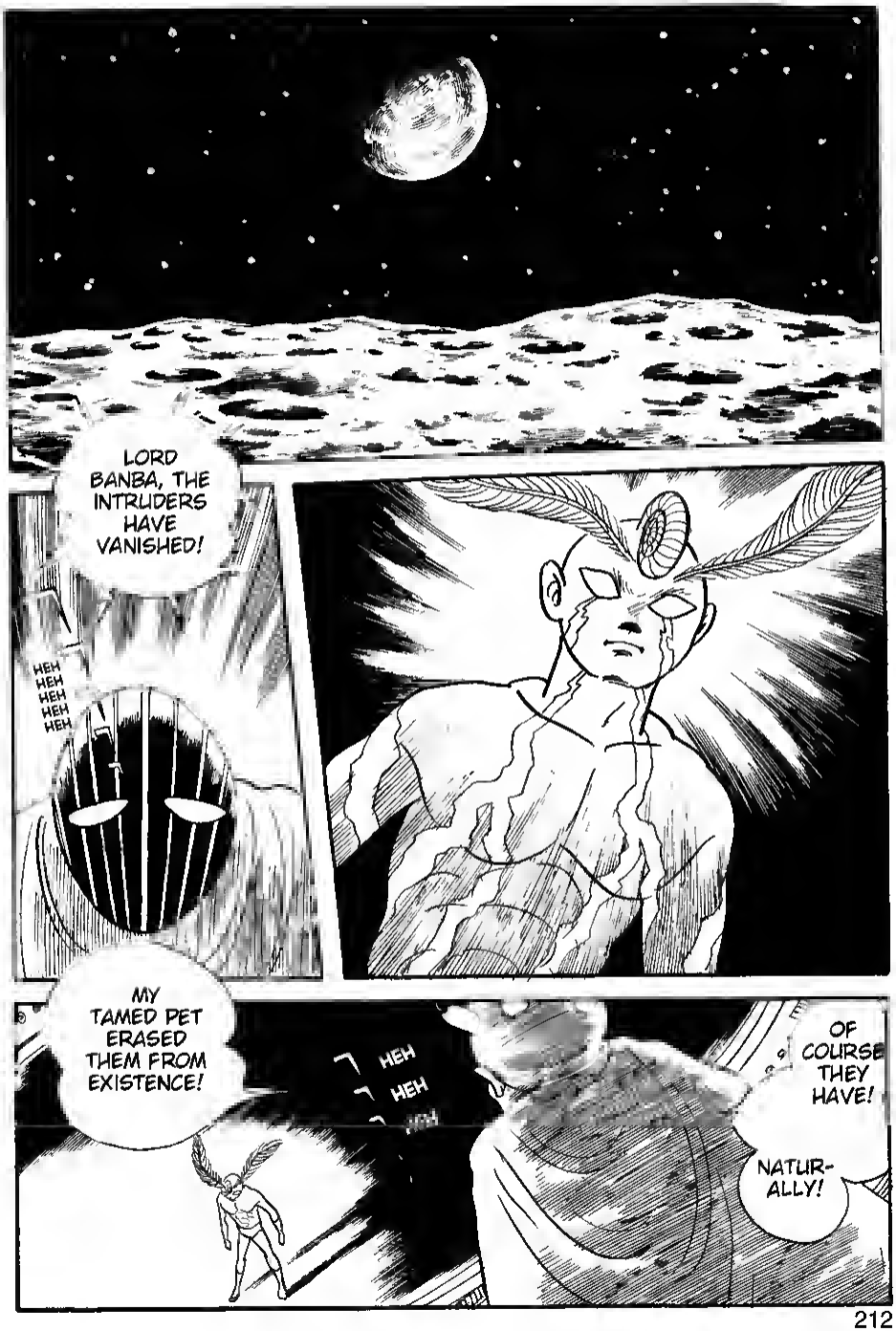

THIS WAY, YOU'RE GOING TO WORK FOR ME, AS HARD AS YOU CAN. AND WHEN THAT WORK PAYS OFF, IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MY EMPIRE...
BUT IT WOULD BE A SHAME TO KILL YOU AND LET ALL THAT POWER GO TO WASTE.
YOU'VE BEEN THE GREATEST THORN IN MY SIDE UNTIL NOW, KAZETA SABURO...
IT SEEMS THEY FOLLOWED SABURO'S TRAIL!
MM?!
LORD BANBA! DOZENS OF BRATS FROM THE YOUTH LEAGUE HAVE TELEPORTED HERE!

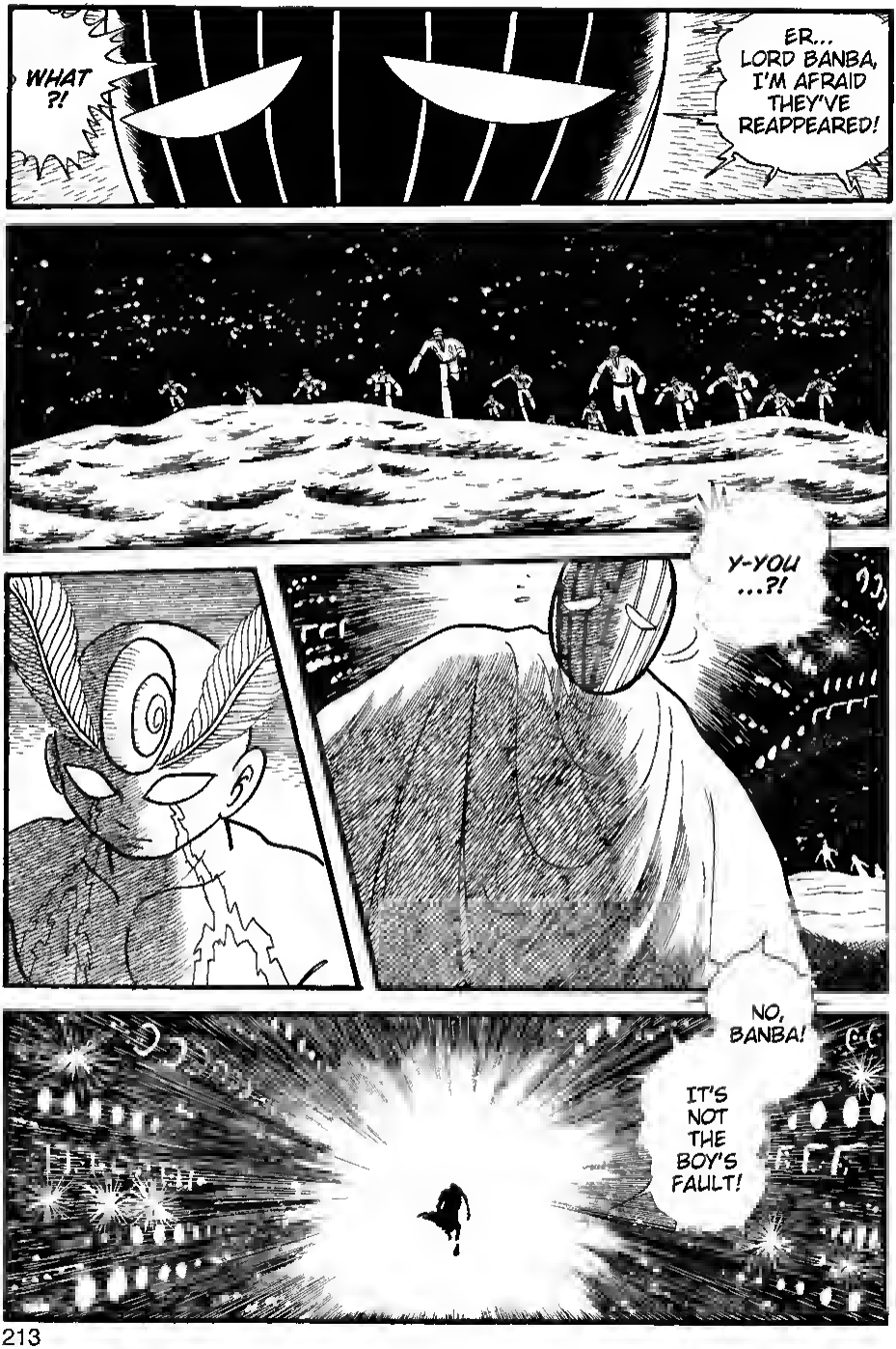
HEH HEH HEH HEH! I SEE... THEY MUST HAVE COME TO RETRIEVE HIM!!
THAT WAS FAST.
AH, WELL. GET THEM ALL TOGETHER AND ERADICATE TH...
NO, WAIT!

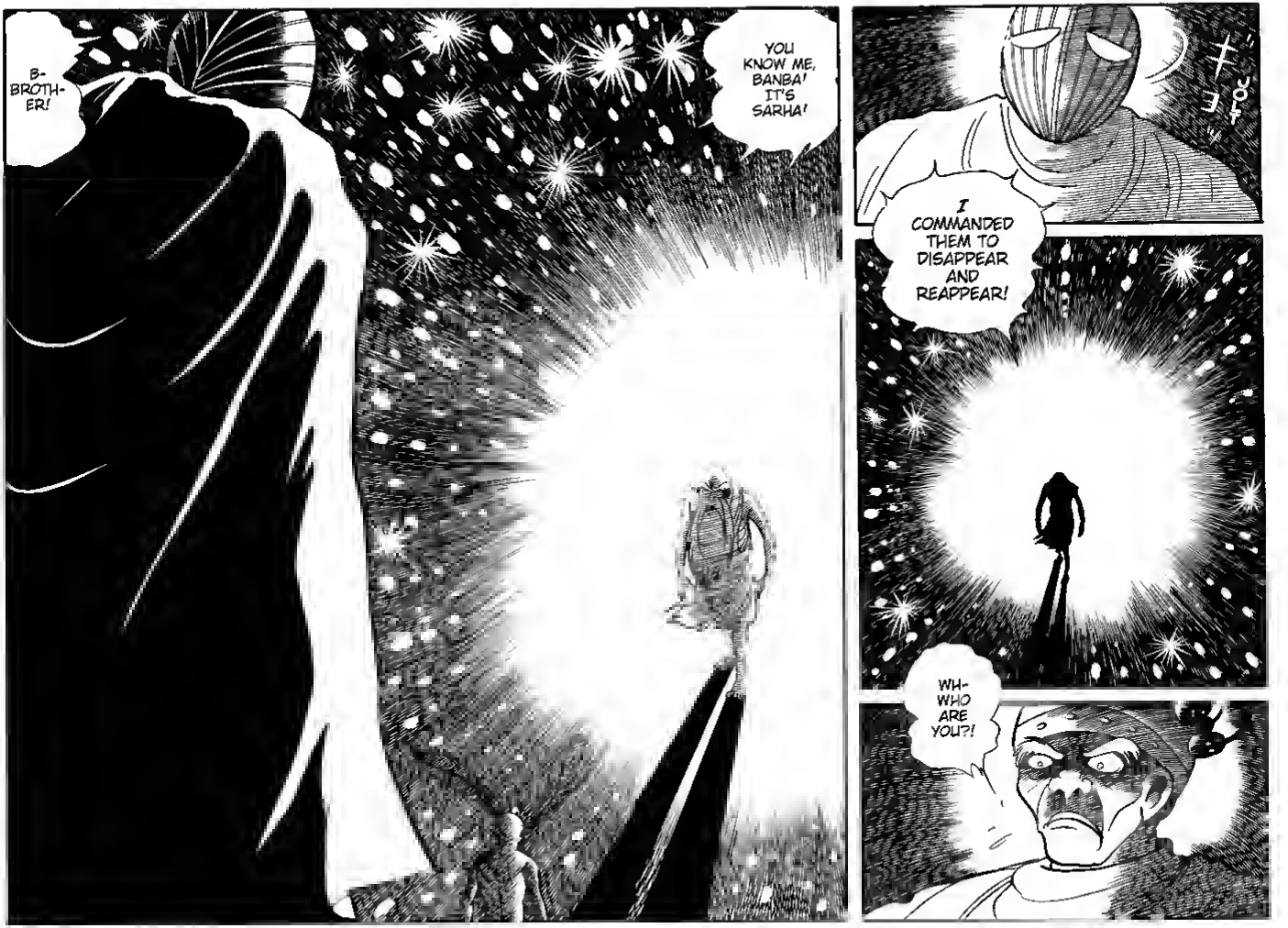
THIS WILL BE A TEST TO SEE JUST HOW MUCH POWER HE HAS, AS WELL AS HOW HARD HE'LL WORK FOR ME!
THIS IS PERFECT TIMING. I'LL HAVE MY NEW WARRIOR DO THE JOB!
THIS IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO TEST YOUR LEVEL OF LOYALTY TO ME!
YOU WERE LISTENING, WEREN'T YOU?
CHIK
DO IT!

GOOD BOY. NOW, IN O.S SECONDS, I'M GOING TO CUT THE PSYCHO BARRIER FIELD!
IN THAT ONE INSTANT, I EXPECT YOU TO REDUCE YOUR FORMER COMRADES TO ASHES!

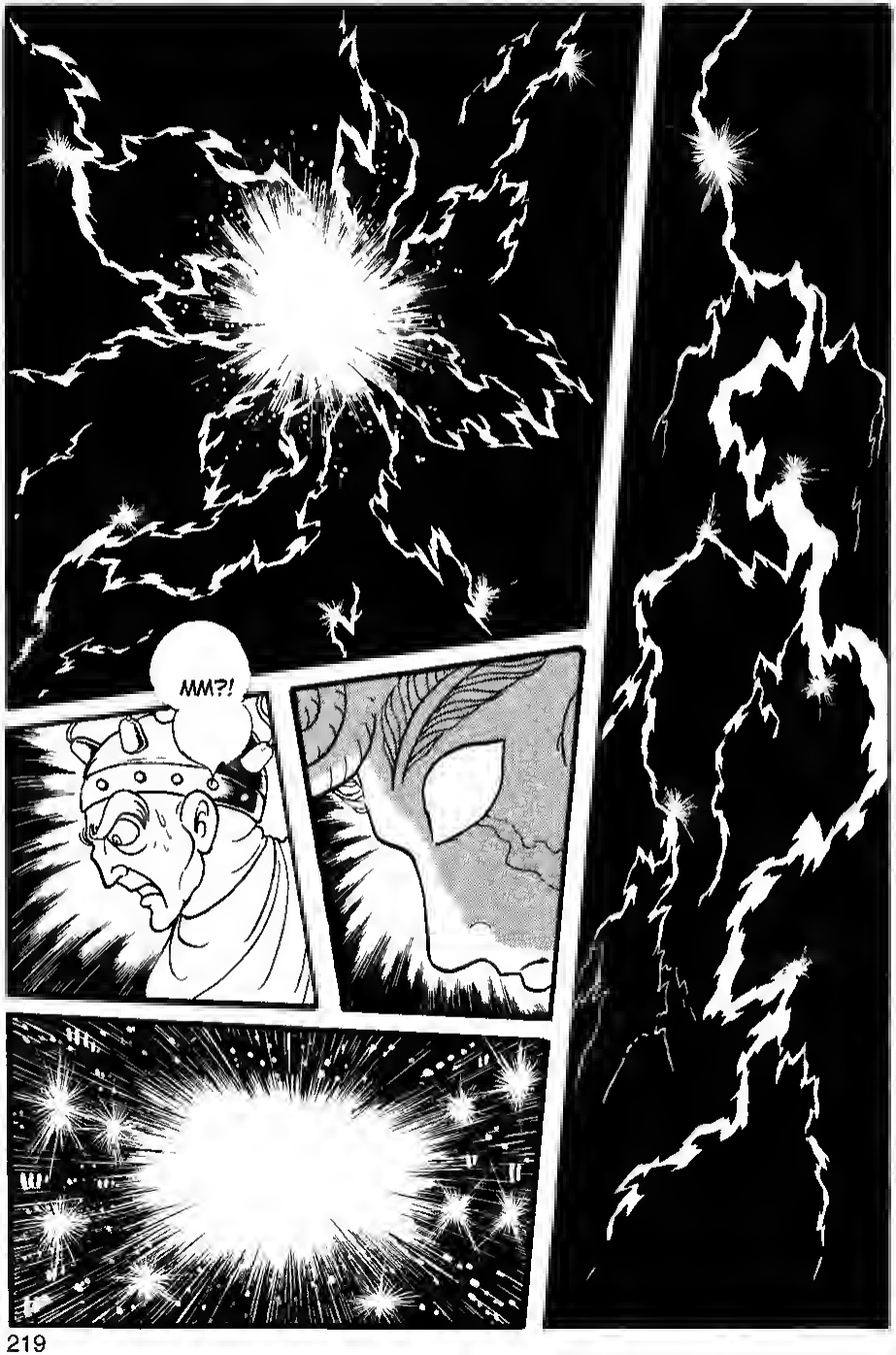


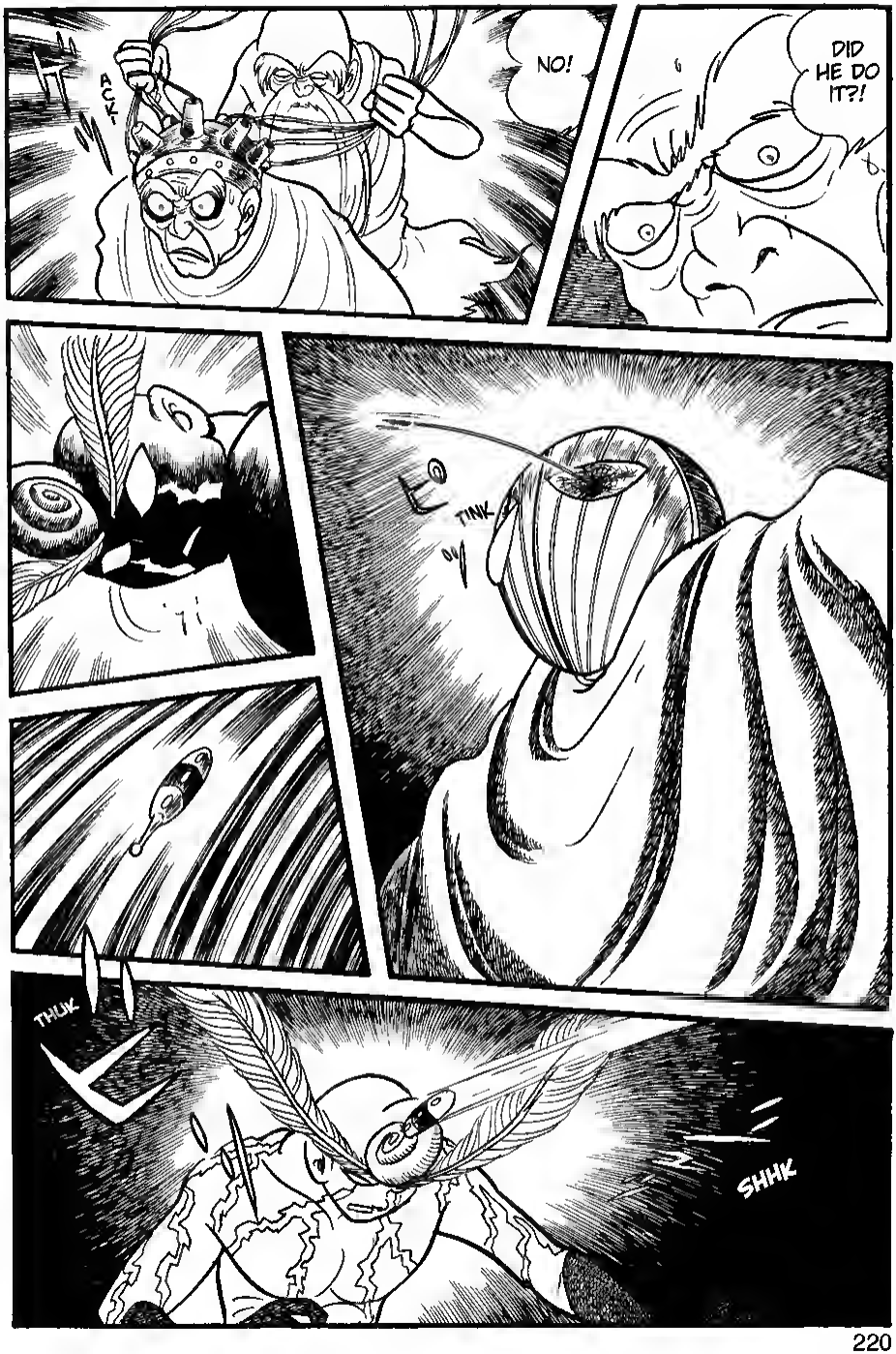

LORD BANBA, THE INTRUDERS HAVE VANISHED!
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH
MY TAMED PET ERASED THEM FROM EXISTENCE!
HEH
HEH
OF COURSE THEY HAVE!
NATUR-ALLY!


WHAT ?!
ER... LORD BANBA, I'M AFRAID THEY'VE REAPPEARED!
Y-YOU ...?!
NO, BANBA!
IT'S NOT THE BOY'S FAULT!

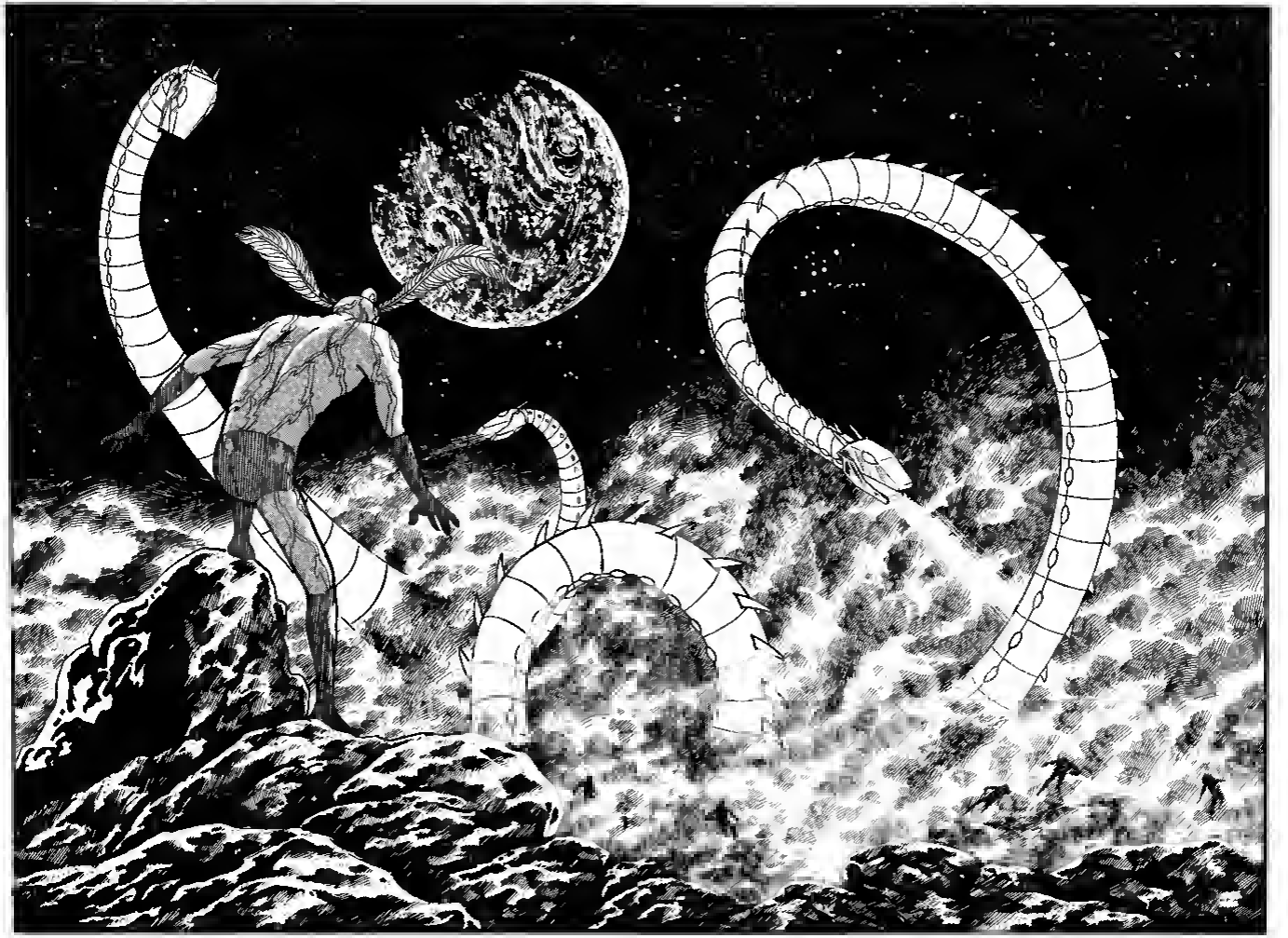

B-BROTHER!
YOU KNOW ME, BANBA! IT'S SARHA!
I COMMANDED THEM TO DISAPPEAR AND REAPPEAR!
WH-WHO ARE YOU?!

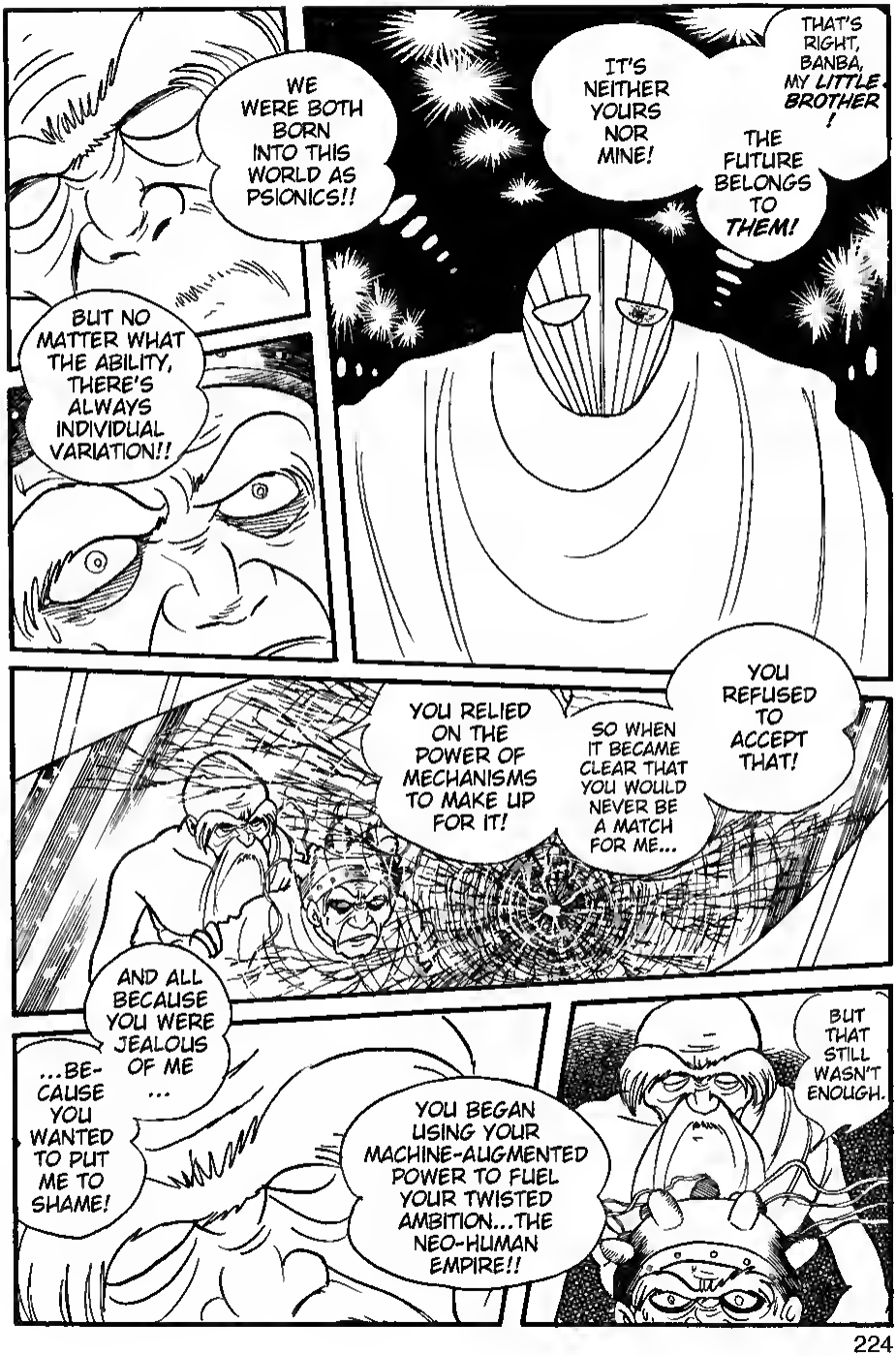
D-DO IT...
INA-ZUMAN!
KILL HIM!


MM?!


ACK!
NO!
DID HE DO IT?!
TINK
THUK
SHHK

UNHH ...
STAND UP, SABURO!
GO, INAZUMAN!
YOU'RE FREE NOW.
GO TO THE SURFACE OF THE MOON. THAT'S WHERE YOUR COMRADES ARE!
FIGHT WITH THEM!
FIGHT FOR YOUR FUTURE!




WE WERE BOTH BORN INTO THIS WORLD AS PSIONICS!!
BUT NO MATTER WHAT THE ABILITY, THERE'S ALWAYS INDIVIDUAL VARIATION!!
IT'S NEITHER YOURS NOR MINE!
THAT'S RIGHT, BANBA, MY LITTLE BROTHER!
THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THEM!
YOU RELIED ON THE POWER OF MECHANISMS TO MAKE UP FOR IT!
SO WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR THAT YOU WOULD NEVER BE A MATCH FOR ME...
YOU REFUSED TO ACCEPT THAT!
AND ALL BECAUSE YOU WERE JEALOUS OF ME ...
...BE-CAUSE YOU WANTED TO PUT ME TO SHAME!
YOU BEGAN USING YOUR MACHINE-AUGMENTED POWER TO FUEL YOUR TWISTED AMBITION...THE NEO-HUMAN EMPIRE!!
BUT THAT STILL WASN'T ENOUGH.

BUT I WON'T LET YOU DO IT, BANBA!!
YOU DIE HERE WITH ME!
WOOOM

CHILDREN... THE FUTURE IS YOURS!